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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether it is directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collection is enforced; whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Notable Celebration of the Dawning Centenary.

Speech of Governor Hendricks at Indianapolis.

Observance of the Day in Washington, Etc.

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, January 1.—At an early hour this morning the untired revellers of the night previous and the *public* in general were again on the *streets*, still full of enthusiasm evoked by *the* greatest event of this generation. At Independence Hall the throng was so great that the Chief of Police found it necessary to detail men to preserve lines of egress and ingress. Carpenter's *Hall*, in which the first Congress of the new nation met, was also a shrine at which patriotic devotions were paid by an innumerable multitude. Mummers of every description enlivened the streets, including the "New Year's Shooters" and *other* societies, in Indian and fantastic costumes, accompanied by some of our first class bands of music.

Girard College celebrated the event in good style, and all the public institutions marked the eventful day by various holiday observances.

The Caledonian Club opened their new club-rooms and had a good time generally.

The illuminations of the previous night were repeated. All places of amusement were well filled and the first day of the Centennial year closed with no abatement of the fervor which marked its inception. During the evening Mayor Stokley received the following dispatch:

"Oshkosh sends greetings to Philadelphia. Centennial welcome. National salute fired. Red, white and blue lights burning in different parts of the city, and bells ringing. We still live.

[Signed] "JOHN HANCOCK."

THE DAY IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—The usual New Year reception was held at the Executive Mansion to-day, beginning at eleven o'clock, at which time the President received the Cabinet and Foreign Ministers, and afterward the judges of the Supreme Court, Senators and Representatives, officers of the army and navy, chiefs of the bureaus, associated soldiers of the war of 1812, the Mexican war veterans, members of the Oldest Inhabitants' Association, a delegation of the Grand Army of the Republic and others. The attendance was large. The Marine Band furnished the music. The officers of the Army and Navy and Marine corps were out in strong array, and presented a remarkable fine appearance. The reception of citizens generally began at twelve M.

The principal point of attraction at the Executive Mansion was the Red Room, which has been refurnished during the recess. Gilt chairs, upholstered in Turkish embroidery, in Japanese and Persian patterns, are scattered through this handsome apartment. Bronze satin curtains, bordered with Matelasse damask, edged with maroon velvet, draped the windows. Flowers were placed in the different rooms.

The presentations, as usual, took place in the Blue Room. The Cabinet Ministers entered first, and after exchanging the customary compliments with the President and Mrs. Grant, took their position in different parts of the room. At 11 o'clock the Diplomatic Corps was, as usual, presented to the President by the Secretary of State. There were but few diplomats absent. Of those seen, of the ladies and gentlemen of the corps, may be named: Sir Edward and Lady Thornton, Captain and Mrs. Storm and the secretaries and attaches of the British Legation; Mr. and Mrs. Mariscal, Mr. De Cuellar and Mr. Romero, of the Mexican Legation; Baron Von Schaer, of Germany; Mr. and Mme. Borges, of Brazil; Mr. and Mme. Dardon, of Guatemala; Mr. Preston, of Hayti; Mr. Delfesse, of Belgium; Aristarchi Bey, Baltazzi Effendi and Mme. Baltazzi, of Turkey; the French Minister, M. Bartholdi; Senor and Senora Manulir and Mr. Polo de Bernabe, of Spain; Baron and Baroness de Sant Anna, of Portugal; the Japanese Minister and his wife, and the Secretary of the Legation; the Chilian Minister; Count and Countess Hayos, of Austria; the Russian Minister and Mme. Chesikine; Baron Albert Blanc and Count Litta, of Italy; the Danish Minister and Mr. A. Grip, Charge d'Affaires of Sweden and Norway. Except the representatives of the republics, all the Ministers and members of the various legations were in court dress. The most magnificent uniforms were worn by the Russian, the Danish, the Italian, the Brazilian, the Japanese, the German and French Ministers. The members of the Turkish Legation wore the red fez on their heads. Baron Blanc, the Italian Minister, seems to have the greatest number of honorary decorations. The ladies of the Diplomatic Corps were very richly attired, though many of them wore toilets, which were very simple in appearance.

Mrs. Grant was assisted by Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. Frederick D. Grant, Mrs. Louis Dent, Mrs. Fish, Mrs. Belknap, Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Robeson, Mrs. Jewell, Mrs. Pierrepont, Mrs. Chandler, Mrs. Benjamin, Miss Fish, Miss Lamont, Miss Chandler, the Misses Stout, and other ladies. At 11:30 A. M., the judges of the Supreme Court were received. They were led by the Chief Justice and Mrs. Waite. Then followed Justices Clifford, Swayne, Miller, Field, Strong, Bradley and Hunt. Then came members of Congress, including Senators Ferry, Conkling, Morton, Frelinghuysen, Howe, Sherman, Conover, Morrill, of Vermont; Cragin, Representatives Chittenden, Hamilton, Hale, Hazleton, Hubbell, McDill, Ainsworth, Parker, ex-Congressman Platt and others. The Court of Claims was represented by the judges of that court. The Board of Health of the District of Columbia were next ushered in, and at twelve o'clock the army and navy officers were received.

The army officers were headed by Adjutant General Townsend, and Judge Advocate General McKee. Then followed by General Vincent, Inspector General Marcy, Quartermaster General Stewart Van Vliet, Commissary General Macomb, Surgeon General Barnes, General Humphries, General Tompkins and Dr. Woodward, of the Surgeon General's office; General Alvord, of the Pay Department; General Foster, Parke, Colonel Carey, Major Elliott and Lieutenant Hoxie, of the Engineer Corps; General Benet and General Lyford, of the Ordnance Department; General Myers, Colonel Mallory and Captain Howgate, of the Signal Service.

Following the representatives of the army came the navy officers, headed by Admiral Porter and Rear Admiral John Rogers. In the line were Commanders Wyman, Patterson and Aiden, Surgeon General Beale, Paymaster General Washough, Naval Constructor Hanscom, General Zeilin, Lieutenant Colonel McCauley, Major Slack and others in the full uniform of their respective grades.

At 12:30 P. M. the assistant secretaries of the departments, the Assistant Postmasters General, the Solicitor General, Assistant Attorneys General and the heads of bureaus were received. At 12:45 P. M. the Associated Survivors of the war of 1812 and the Mexican war were received, and also the members of the Oldest Inhabitants' Association. From 1 until 2 o'clock the doors were opened to all, and a large number of citizens and visiting strangers paid their respects to the President. The residences of all the heads of the Government departments and four hundred or five hundred private dwellings were open for the reception of visitors.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 1.—Friday night and Saturday morning all the bells throughout the city rang together, but steam power, as usual, came in ahead. Every craft with a steam whistle on the North and East rivers opened its throttle at the same time, as if by universal agreement, and for ten or fifteen minutes the sound was as if the noon whistles of all the factories on the continent were blowing "12 o'clock." And the steamboat whistles were not alone. All the engine drivers on the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Railroads who came into Jersey City Friday night banked their fires and kept up steam until 12 o'clock, when the cords were pulled in scores of cabooses, and a din arose which must have made Bergen Hill vibrate to its very base. After this terrific signal of "down brakes" for the old century there was a calm which lasted till near daybreak. Then the popping of pistols and torpedoes began, and continued with more or less vehemence until breakfast-time.

The morning was dark and foggy, but at nine o'clock the sun's face could be distinctly seen through the mist—a sure sign that the weather was about to clear. By ten o'clock the air was warm and balmy, and the slimy streets were drying fast. The New Year's callers turned out in great numbers with the prospect of completing the whole round without omitting a single name on their lists. The city wore a very lively aspect for the remainder of the day, although at three o'clock in the afternoon the fog had come again. Navigation then became dangerous, and those callers who went to Brooklyn or Jersey City in their rounds wished themselves safely back again.

Excepting the few who shut themselves up behind closed and bolted doors, and miserly hung out a basket to receive the cards of callers, the day was a thorough holiday to all. There were fewer scenes of drunkenness on the streets than have been witnessed for many a New Year's day. Scores of families, and probably hundreds if not thousands who had been accustomed to include various kinds of strong liquors among the refreshments prepared for their friends, this year left them out of the bill altogether, furnishing only wines and coffee. The good effect of this was very apparent in the diminished number of young men who found difficulty in entering coach doors or maintaining the perpendicular while on the sidewalk.

INDIANAPOLIS—SPEECH BY GOVERNOR HENDRICKS.

INDIANAPOLIS, January 1.—The Centennial year was ushered in at twelve o'clock midnight by the noisiest demonstration it was possible to make. At a given signal one hundred strokes were sounded from the *Fire* Department bells, followed by a peal—"Praise God from whom all blessings flow"—from the chimes of Christ church. *This* was followed by the firing of a salute of one hundred guns, the screeching of steam whistles, the shooting of pistols and fire-crackers, and other noisy demonstrations of joy.

At ten o'clock a meeting was held at the Academy of Music, at which Mayor Caven presided. After prayer by Rev. E. A. Bradley, Gov. Hendricks was introduced and addressed the assembly. Two ideas were prominently advanced by the Governor as of special importance. While he would not say that American schools surpassed those of other countries, still the foundation was laid for a system of free schools which, within a quarter of a century, would surpass them. The free school must be regarded as the foundation of American stability, and the people must consider and treat as a foe any one who brings the system in controversy with a view of injuring its efficiency. Since its birth the country has borne itself proudly and successfully against its enemies; first, in the seven years, with Washington at its head, when it laid the foundation for future permanent government; then, in the foreign war; and, more recently, the test of civil war, which is the hardest for any Government to sustain, and in all these it came out with its institutions preserved and integrally sustained. In conclusion, he drew an eloquent picture of the manner in which American sentiment was recognized by other Governments, and that this sentiment, embraced in the one idea that the Government rests upon the consent of the governed, would eventually end in every man being free.

SARATOGA.

SARATOGA, January 1.—Midnight had just struck when the new year was ushered in by the ringing of all the bells in the town, firing of cannon, pyrotechnic displays and a parade of the Fire Department.

CLEVELAND.

CLEVELAND, January 1.—The Independence Centennial year was greeted gallantly in this city to-night. The City Hall and public buildings, as well as many private residences and business houses, were illuminated, and huge bonfires fed by barrels of petroleum burned in the public square. At midnight a salute of one hundred guns were fired, at which signal nearly all of the bells in the city were rung and the steam whistles blown. Bands of music and military paraded the crowded streets.

LOUISVILLE.

LOUISVILLE, January 1.—The most beautiful night of the season has ushered in the new year. At 12 o'clock the fire bells rang out "1-8-7-6," and 100 guns were fired. The City Building was illuminated, and there was a display of fire works from the new *Courier-Journal* building.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, January 1.—Early last evening throngs began to gather in the streets, and, as the evening progressed, the illuminations became more general and the crowds in the streets thicker. As midnight approached the excitement became intensified, and the shooting of Chinese crackers and cannon reminded the spectators more of the Fourth of July than of mid-winter.

GETTYSBURG, ETC.

GETTYSBURG, January 1.—Never but once since its existence has Gettysburg heard a noise like that of last night. Cannon were fired, bonfires burned, bells played, locomotives whistled, houses were illuminated, and every man, woman and child was out on the streets.

Dispatches from Providence, Newport, Concord, Wilkesbarre, Pa., Lebanon, Pa., and elsewhere indicate a similar celebration.

FIRE RECORD.

Piedmont, W. Va.—Twenty Buildings Burned.

WHEELING, January 1.—A fire at Piedmont, this State, this forenoon consumed about twenty buildings, ten of which were occupied as stores. The court house and postoffice were destroyed. The loss is not known as yet.

Dedication of Fisk University.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 1.—The new Fisk University, named in honor of Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, was formally dedicated to-day in the presence of a large assemblage of people, white and black. Governor Porter and other State officials, Bishop McTyeire, of the Methodist Church South, and quite a number of clergymen and educators were present. General Fisk, who is the President of the Board of Directors, presided, and made the opening address. Governor Porter, Bishop McTyeire, ex-Commissioner Smith, President of the Howard University, and others also made addresses. The occasion was a notable one, being an important era in the advancing intelligence and progress of the negro race in the South. The University building cost $120,000, nearly all of which was raised by the jubilee singers. Mr. Fisk, by personal effort in New York, raised sufficient funds to furnish the forty rooms of the building. The University was established and is conducted under the auspices of the American Missionary Association, but various denominations are represented in the directors, corps of teachers and professors.

Illness of A. H. Stephens.

ATLANTA, GA., January 1.—A special dispatch to the Atlanta *Constitution* reports that the Hon. A. H. Stephens' condition is unfavorable. His nephew, Clarence Stephens, does not think he can recover. The trouble is a severe cough and expectoration. Dr. Steiner, the physician attending, says the bronchial tubes are affected, but not the lungs. The Rev. Dr. Duncan brought a message from Mr. Stephens to the Methodist watch meeting at Dr. Harrison's church in this city last night, saying: "I have but one prayer I wish offered for me, and that is 'the will of the Lord be done.'" During the visit of Mr. Duncan Mr. Stephens asked him to sing "This world is all a fleeting show," and also Wilde's "My life is like a summer rose." It seems certain that Mr. Stephens himself recognizes the early approach of death.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—Clearer, fair weather, lower temperature, northerly to westerly winds and rising barometer.

It is stated as probable that a grand gathering of English, Swiss and German Protestants will be held at Geneva in the spring.

Numerous bands of Khokand insurgents are preparing to resume hostilities. Fresh Russian troops will be dispatched to the scene of operations this month.

The schooner Helen Sharp, in ballast from Barbados, for Key West, was totally wrecked on the night of the 21st of December at Key Confites. The crew were saved.

The following steamers have arrived at New York: Salier, from Bremen; Nellie Martin, from New Castle; France, from Havre; Hindoo, from Hull and Southampton; and City of Chester, Nevada, Parthia and Celtic, from Liverpool.

The *Diario de la Marina*, of Havana, in a leading editorial, says: "The Spanish Government should proceed with dignity, preserving its independence and giving Secretary Fish the check he merits if he pretends to meddle with our internal affairs."

Heavy rains have occurred in the northern parts of Scotland during the past few days. The rivers have been swollen, and large tracts of land inundated. The Loch Earn river has overflowed to an alarming extent, and the mills on its banks have been compelled to stop.

It is stated in a London paper that up to the present time only 700 persons in Great Britain have announced their intention to contribute to the Centennial Exhibition. The Queen has consented to send twenty of her pictures. The Royal Academy will allow each R. A. to send two pictures and each A. R. A. to send one.

The ship Itaska arrived at San Francisco yesterday, 253 days from Baltimore, having encountered successive gales for 112 days. August 21 J. A. Wise, second mate, and Daniel Sheran, seaman, were swept overboard. Three seamen died of hardship and exposure. At one time there were only four men for duty.

General Porfirio Diaz, the distinguished chief of the liberal forces of Mexico during the French occupation, has arrived at Brownsville, Texas, giving rise to unlimited speculation as to the cause of his visit. The state of ferment in some portions of Mexico and the approaching April elections, in connection with this arrival, lead to the belief that troublesome times are near at hand. General Diaz left Vera Cruz a few days ago for New York via Havana.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Emigration from Germany to America.

Emperor William Taking Steps to Stem the Tide.

Coming Senatorial Elections in Kentucky, Iowa and Mississippi.

THE CENTENNIAL APPROPRIATION SAFE.

Colorado's Constitution Preparing.

Strength and Disposition of the Army

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 2, 1876.

Strength and Disposition of the Army.

The following statement is furnished as showing the disposition of the military forces, it having been alleged by the Democrats, who seem not to have received enough of the bayonet, that the army has been used for political purposes in the South. The military establishment by law is fixed at 25,000 men. The total number at this date in service is 2,058 commissioned officers and 22,796 enlisted men. The signal service consists of a total of 454 non-commissioned officers and privates. There are also on the retired lists, by nature of various acts of Congress, 294 officers. The army proper consists therefore of 24, 854, rank and file.

In the Department of the Missouri there are sixty-three companies of cavalry and infantry, embracing 3,288 rank and file. In the Department of Texas, there are three companies of infantry and cavalry, comprising 3,357 rank and file. In the Department of Texas, which includes the Mexican frontier, 1,000 miles long, from Fort Brown to Fort Bliss, sixty-seven companies of cavalry and infantry—3,371 rank and file. In the Department of the Gulf, which comprises the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Florida, 133 companies of artillery, cavalry and infantry—1,408 rank and file. In the Department of the Platte, which includes Dakota, with Indian frontier, sixty companies of cavalry and infantry—3,335 rank and file. In the Military Division of the Atlantic, including the defenses of the great seaports on that coast, thirty-five companies of artillery and six of infantry—2,044 rank and file. In the Department of California, nineteen companies of artillery, cavalry and infantry—1,043 rank and file. In the Department of the Columbia, twenty-one companies of artillery, infantry and cavalry—1,162 rank and file. In the Department of Arizona, twenty-five companies of infantry and cavalry—1,480 rank and file. In the Military Division of the South, Georgia, part of Florida, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky, thirty-eight companies of artillery and infantry—1,859 rank and file. In the recruiting departments there are no less than one hundred and sixty-nine garrisoned forts. In addition to these, there are sixty-one fortified posts in charge of ordnance sergeants or under the engineer corps. There are also nineteen arsenals to be taken care of. This official statement would show that the army, as at present constituted, had enough and more than enough to do.

Coming Senatorial Elections.

The Senatorial elections in Mississippi, Kentucky and Iowa are a subject of interest to many here. Lamar telegraphs from Mississippi that he has no doubt of his election. In Kentucky the contest is reported as being up hill, no combination to be formed. In Iowa Harlan is on the ground and confident. Gen. Belknap will leave here in a few days to look after his interests in that quarter.

Emigration from Germany.

The depletion of Germany of the flower of her population by emigration to the United States has long been a matter of concern to the Emperor and the capitalists, manufacturers and land owners of the Empire. Many of the Western States, and in fact the United States, have published in the German language pamphlets on the resources of the country and on other topics of interest, which have been widely circulated with a view to the encouragement of emigration. Several States have agents residing at different points in the Empire to give information and to superintend the shipment of emigrants. The German Government for some years has had this subject under consideration, and has attempted, without success, measures to keep the population at home. It has become known that the German Government contemplates taking steps to prevent the circulation of these documents.

As to Financial Legislation.

The probability of legislation on the finances, in the opinion of leading members of both Houses and of both parties, is not great. There is no doubt, however, that there will be some debate on the question during the session. The Democrats are extremely concerned on this question, and are evidently anxious to dodge it if they can.

Colorado's Constitution.

Advices from Colorado say that the Constitution now under discussion promises to be more of a success than the previous attempts in that line. The Constitution of 1864 was defeated, and the one subsequently prepared fell through in consequence of the veto by Johnson of the bill for the admission of the Territory. After two experiences, it is believed that the Constitution of the Centennial State will be a model.

The Centennial Appropriation.

The return of the members after the Christmas holidays shows that their presence among their constituents has confirmed their determination to make handsome appropriation for the benefit of the Centennial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 1, 1875.

SECOND COMPTROLLER OF TREASURY.

Governor Carpenter, of Iowa, who has accepted the post of Second Comptroller of the Treasury, is a man of forty-five years, a good lawyer of sound judgment, thoroughly upright and with backbone. His appointment is very highly commended here by all who know him.

A WEEKLY LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS

issued to the inventors of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending December 28, 1875. Reported by telegraph expressly for the COMMERCIAL, by A. H. Evans & Co., Patent Solicitors, May building, Washington, D. C.:

PENNSYLVANIA.

G. O. Clark, Philadelphia—Mail bag.
I. Houston, Montgomery—Planing machine.
G. R. Moore, Philadelphia—Stove grate.
L. Schaeffer, Philadelphia—Combined implement.
A. A. Carter, Philadelphia—Door screen.
H. R. Morgan, Erie—Feed organ attachment.
F. P. Musser, Beaver Falls—Book support for arm chairs.
J. F. Rhoads, Philadelphia—Station ventilator.
E. T. Starr, Philadelphia—Head rest for dental chairs.
D. Louis, Philadelphia—Washing machine.
J. Shepard, Allegheny—Cigar cutter.
L. H. Shepard, Philadelphia—Picture exhibitor.
J. G. Chandler, Philadelphia—Lower shuttle box mechanism.
A. F. Flanagan, Philadelphia—Cork stopper.
A. F. Diamond, Pittsburgh—Belt coupling.
A. French, Philadelphia—Lamp.
G. Godley, Philadelphia—Car ventilator.
H. P. Rankin, Allegheny—Sausage machine.
W. L. Hardison, St. Petersburg—Petroleum well.
W. L. Hardison, St. Petersburg—Packer for oil wells.
Reissue—W. W. Hubbell, Philadelphia—Pavement.
Designs—T. B. Atterbury, Pittsburgh—Glass shade.
W. A. Duff, Philadelphia—Flag.
S. Pfaelzer, Philadelphia—Breastpin.
Trade Mark—Burkholder & Wilson, Benderville—Fertilizer.
Miller, Mc calf & Parkin, Pittsburgh—Steel, bar, plate, &c. (2 cases).

OHIO.

I. N. Foote, Middletown—Truss pad.
J. W. Chase, Middleport—Cultivator.
J. Kerby, Cleveland—Operating car brakes.
J. Capstack, Barnsville—Twisting machine.
L. M. Crosby, Ashtabula—Wash board.
Reissue—S. C. Tolcott, Ashtabula—Measuring packaged fabrics.

Moody and Sankey Meetings.

PHILADELPHIA, January 2.—An immense congregation attended the ministrations of Moody and Sankey at the three services to-day. In the morning Mr. Moody took a dozen passages from the Bible and commented upon them. Fully eleven thousand ladies were present in the afternoon, of whom forty stood up for prayer. Rev. Shalto D. Douglas, Vicar of All Saints, Darby, England, offered prayer. Mr. Moody preached upon the new birth—"Except a man be born again he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." He explained the new birth and gave an account of his own feelings at conversion. In the evening Gen. Hawley, President of the Centennial Commission, and Judges Agnew, Williams, Mercur, Gordon, Sharswood and Paxson, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, were present. Twenty-five men went into the inquiry rooms for special prayer. Mr. Moody preached the same sermon as in the afternoon.

HARRISBURG.

Arrival of Senators and Members.

SESSION TO BE REGARDED CONTINUOUS.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 2, 1876.

Senators and members of the House are rapidly arriving by every train. The Democrats now here are decidedly opposed to the reorganization of the House. The Speaker and all the officers of the last House will be continued. A majority of the members of the Legislature holding the opinion that the present session should be a continuous one, they will take up the calendar at the end of the last session and proceed with business. The Democrats hold a caucus Monday afternoon or Tuesday for the purpose of party drill. The Senate and House meet Tuesday at 12 M. The officers of the Senate will be the same as last session, with the exception of one or two minor positions. Speaker Patterson and J. B. Shannon Thornton are the only members of the Allegheny county delegation here. The Philadelphia delegation, who favor a reorganization of the House, will arrive Monday forenoon.

OHIO LEGISLATURE.

Republican Caucus for Officers.

COLUMBUS, January 1.—At the caucus of the Republican members of the House to-night, the following officers were chosen: Charles H. Grosvenor, of Athens, for Speaker; Wm. Leonard, of Cuyahoga, for Clerk, and Mr. Brown, of Lawrence, for Sergeant-at-Arms.

In the Senate caucus, H. W. Curtis, of Cuyahoga, was chosen President *pro tem.*; J. C. Davidson, of Franklin, Chief Clerk, and E. S. Jones, of Lucas, Sergeant-at-Arms.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 1, 1876.

LAUNCHING OF THE STEAM FRIGATE TRENTON.

The United States steam frigate Trenton was launched at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to-day, in the presence of a large assemblage. To Miss Kate Parker, the daughter of ex-Governor Parker, of New Jersey, had been promised the honor of christening the new frigate. On Thursday, the day of the first attempt, the lady was early at her station between the Knight heads. She waited with exemplary patience and fortitude for nearly two hours in the dismal mist and the cutting northeast wind for the obstinate ship that would not move. Yesterday a naval tug-boat was sent for her, but time and tide wait for no lady, and at the hour of high water Miss Parker had not arrived. In this emergency another place was filled by Miss Louisa Lynch, daughter of Captain Lynch, United States Navy, who, as the bow of the vessel left the ways, broke a bottle of foaming champagne over the stem and named the vessel "The Trenton." At the same moment the national colors were run up fore and aft, in token of the vessel's entrance into the navy of the United States, and the tugboat bearing the belated christener had just arrived. The Trenton was at once placed in the dry dock, where she will receive her shaft, propeller and rudder.

MR. BEECHER RECEIVES.

Mr. Beecher was in his parlor to-day from 11 until 6 o'clock, and grasped the hands of 1,193 persons, an interval of nearly two hundred callers over last year.

CHARLES O'CONOR'S CONDITION.

Mr. O'Conor was not so bright as usual to-day, but the change in his condition was not of an alarming character.

MURDER AT WESTMINSTER HOTEL.

John R. Dillebor, a wealthy liquor dealer, of 49 Beaver street, was shot last evening at the Westminster Hotel by Romaine Dillon, and died this morning. Dillon, in Bellevue Hospital, from internal hemorrhage. Before his death he made an *ante-mortem* statement, from which it appeared that the attack was entirely unprovoked. Dillon has been committed to the Tombs and is looked upon as insane.

NEW YORK, January 2, 1877.

HEAVY DEFALCATION IN BABBITT'S SOAP WORKS.

It is alleged to have been recently discovered that Charles H. Beckwith, while superintendent of Benjamin T. Babbit's soap works, from 1868 to 1873, defrauded the concern out of between $200,000 and $300,000. The *modus operandis* said to have been by the issue of the size of checks drawn by Babbitt, and in case one absolute forgery. Beckwith was arrested to-day. He was living unostentatiously, and is supposed to have invested the money in some enterprise.

Charlie Ross Again.

BOSTON, January 1.—The *Herald* has a special from St. Albans to the effect that the boy claiming to be Charlie Ross is not the missing boy. Mr. Miller does not believe it. He was shown an album in which were pictures of two Philadelphia boys, whom he recognized at once and called by name. Other prominent citizens are also still to believe that he is Charlie Ross. Mr. Ross, of Philadelphia, has been again telegraphed to, and replies that he will be in St. Albans Monday afternoon.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

The Hudson river is now free of ice to Albany.

Timothy Dodd, said to be the oldest merchant of Boston, died Saturday, aged ninety-five years.

Hon. W. J. Stone has been unanimously elected Speaker of the Kentucky House of Representatives.

David Garvin, a prominent merchant of Fremont, Ohio, accidentally shot and killed himself Saturday.

Hon. John S. Clifford, ex-Governor of Massachusetts, died yesterday, of dropsy, at New Bedford, aged sixty-six.

Col. Sidney A. Stockdale, a member of Grant's staff the latter part of the war, died on Christmas, at San Diego, Cal.

The Leavenworth *Commercial* was sold on Saturday to D. R. Anthony, and will hereafter be published as an afternoon paper.

There is said to be not a particle of truth in the report that Col. Valentine Baker, on the expiration of his period of confinement, will enter the Russian service.

Ex-Adjutant General J. D. Crofton and son, of Missouri, and Colonel Rogers, of the same State, have been indicted for forgery and uttering bogus military warrants.

The King of Bavaria has bestowed the knighthood of the Order of Maximilian on Prof. Max Muller, who the other day resigned the chair of Comparative Philology at Oxford.

The United States Supreme Court will resume its session to-day, when it is expected a decision will be made of the Grant parish case, involving the constitutionality of the Enforcement act.

Isaac H. Frothingham, Chief Clerk in the Stamp Department of the Boston Postoffice, was arrested Saturday for embezzling stamps, and held in $6,000 bail by the United States Commissioner.

By an accident at the Centennial buildings Saturday, two workmen, named Retrue and Wells, were killed outright, and another, named Georgs Smith, died in hospital from injuries received.

Miss Maggie H. Davis, daughter of Jefferson Davis, was married at St. Lazarus Episcopal church, Memphis, Saturday morning, to J. Adison Hayes, Esq., Cashier of the State National Bank of that city.

At ten o'clock Friday night, Mrs. Ritchie, aged eighty-four years, residing at No. 1610 Richards street, Philadelphia, was fatally burned. Wells will be held at the office of the clothing taking fire from a lighted candle.

Edward H. Johnson, a noted thief and express robber, has escaped from the Tennessee Penitentiary through means of bribery. He was sentenced for twenty-one years for robbing an express messenger in Memphis last February.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph* says the second brother of the Czar, the Grand Duke Nicholas, basbeen exiled to the Caucasus for four months, on account of his heavy indebtedness and disorderly life.

The following is a summary of moneys invested in Columbus during the past year: Public improvements, $365,000; manufactories, $176,000; business houses, $246,600; miscellaneous improvements, $164,000; dwellings, $614,850; grand total, $2,086,350.

Assistant Quartermaster General Thomas (on the retired list since 1873), while walking Saturday afternoon near the Treasury Department in Washington, was seized with a paralytic stroke and fell to the pavement. A number of gentlemen went to his assistance, when a carriage was obtained and the venerable gentleman removed to his residence.

A committee of the Harvard Boat Club, of Cambridge, Mass., are to meet at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, to-night to decide whether they will remain in the Boating Association of American Colleges, or withdraw. It is the general opinion that the majority of the committee will vote for Harvard to remain in the association until after the next college regatta and then withdraw.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Spain.

JOVELLAR LEAVES FOR CUBA.

MADRID, January 1.—General Jovellar, the new Captain General of Cuba, set sail from Cadiz yesterday, for Havana.

TWO ROYAL DECREES—CORTES CONVOKED —TRIAL OF NEWSPAPER OFFENSES.

MADRID, January 1.—A royal decree is promulgated convoking the Cortes February 15. Deputies and Senators are to be elected by universal suffrage on this occasion only. The elections commence on the 20th of January in Spain. The decree further provides that towns in Biscay and Navarre, free from hostile factions, shall elect Deputies and Senators for the parts of those provinces occupied by the enemy.

Another decree is issued imposing penalties upon the press for attacks upon the King, the Royal family and the constitutional monarchy, and instituting a tribunal, composed of three judges in each of the royal courts, to try newspaper offenses.

France.

CANONIZATION OF JOAN OF ARC.

PARIS, January 1.—Bishop Dupanloup has gone to Rome to urge the canonization of Joan of Arc.

MR. FISH'S CUBAN NOTE PRESENTED TO MINISTER DECAZES.

PARIS, January 2.—*La Liberte* states that Mr. Washburne, the American Ambassador, has communicated to M. Decazes, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the note of his Government in relation to Cuba. He declared that the United States by no means desired to annex the Antilles or to require them to grant autonomy to Cuba, although they desired to see the latter reform effected.

Germany.

THE TURKISH NOTE APPROVED BY RUSSIA

BERLIN, January 2.—The note drawn up by Count Andrassy, the Austrian Premier, relative to reforms in Turkey, has received the approval of Russia and is understood to have been dispatched to the Guaranteeing Powers. The note proposes the equality of all religious denominations and the introduction of provincial and communal self-government, and that the first results of these changes in the insurgent provinces shall be the imposition of taxation by the provinces themselves and the abolition of seridom.

England.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT WAPPING.

LONDON, January 3.—The East End flour and rye mills, at Wapping, were destroyed by fire yesterday. The loss is estimated at £60,000. One fireman was killed and several injured. Eighteen buildings adjacent were badly damaged.

Marine News.

HAVRE, January 1.—The derelict steamship L'Amerique, of the General Transatlantic Company, arrived here to-day, in tow, from Queenstown.

LONDON, January 2.—Arrived—Auxland, at Plymouth, and Othello, at Hull, from New York.

WHEELING.

Child Killed by a Street Car—Man Found Drowned.

WHEELING, January 2.—About seven o'clock this evening, Mary Nicholson, aged thirteen, while crossing the street in front of her father's residence, in the Sixth ward, was run over by a street car and instantly killed.

The body of Robert Lanchlin, aged fifty-one, was found in the creek in the eastern part of the city this morning. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict of accidental drowning.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

The Buffalo Treasurer.

BUFFALO, January 1.—The amount of the Bork defalcation, so far as can be gleaned from the present state of his Treasurer's book, is about $350,000. Bork was at Clinton, Ontario, last night, which is just across the border. His property has been attached by the Sheriff and the banking house of Lyon, Bork & Co. closed.

Leavenworth Postmaster Vindicated.

LEAVENWORTH, KS., January 1.—Col. Huntington, Special Agent of the Postoffice Department, has been here two days past investigating the charges against D. R. Anthony, Postmaster. The investigation was public, and after the evidence was taken, Jas. F. Legate, who preferred the charges, admitted that they were not sustained, and withdrew them.

Extensive Manufacture of Counterfeit Coin in Columbus Penitentiary.

COLUMBUS, January 1.—For some time counterfeit five cent pieces, or nickles, have become very common here, and until to-day the public knew nothing as to where they came from. To-day a *Sunday News* reporter, after patient investigation, has learned the particulars. Mild Gordon has discovered into a first-class sensation. These bogus coins have been traced to a young son of Col. G. S. Innis, Warden of the Penitentiary. Upon being interrogated, the child told that he had been furnished the coin by certain prisoners to purchase tobacco for them. This led to an investigation, and it now turns out that the making of this "queer" has been going on in the penitentiary, under the very eyes of the officers, for some time. The moulds for the coin were made by prisoners, and the metal used was amalgam, used in plating harness in the harness shops. Already the gang was discovered one of the convicts "squealed," and a search turned up about one hundred pounds of the bogus stowed away for future use. The counterfeit coin is a good imitation of the genuine, the main difference being in the upper part of the shield, which is barred in the genuine and smooth in the spurious. The bogus coins are all dated 1870, and it is impossible to tell how much has been put in circulation.

Battle between Indians and Mexicans.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 2.—A dispatch from San Diego says Colonel Minz, with Sanora State troops, attacked the main body of the Yaqua Indians at Pittshaila, December 3d, and routed them with the loss of about 200 killed and wounded. The Mexican loss was twenty wounded.

Secretary Chandler says that his Department has been much embarrassed in ferreting out frauds in the pension service, by the premature publication of proceedings made against the rings, and he is determined in the future to stop all such "leaks." Pension Agent Newton, at Philadelphia, was removed, Secretary Chandler said, because he was suspected of furnishing a morning newspapers with the details of what special agents had done long before reaching the ring there, together with the names of the firms which were implicated in the transactions.

The Hartford *Times* tells of a supposed Connecticut stump speaker who was haranguing a crowd in Fairfield county, when the following points were suddenly and forcibly broken by a bawling exclamation from a half-drunken fellow in the crowd, who sang out: "O, you're a demagogue!" The orator fixed his eye upon the fellow and, pausing just a moment to fix attention of the audience and give his response the more effect, sneeringly answered, as some of his own unapproachable grins: "And put a wisp of straw around your belly, and you'd be a demijohn!" It brought down the house and extinguished the bibulous offender.

Louisville *Courier-Journal*: "Haven, the absurd bishop, who undertook to pray the President into a third term, is a millionaire. The man who said that 'a fool and his money are so

The Commercial.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1875.

THE exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $276,146.

THE second annual meeting of the United States Potters' Association will be held in this city next Wednesday, at the Monongahela House.

"DURING the Centennial year every American should speak the truth."—*Troy Times.*

Come, now; why do you want to muzzle the Democratic press?

THERE was a marked falling off in New Years' calls this season. The custom is ceasing to be as fashionable as it once was, probable owing to the fact that it has been frequently so badly abused.

THE favorable impression made upon travelers by the Philadelphia lines of steamships is shown by the fact that during the past year, the American and Red Star lines carried 20,985 passengers, against 16,671 for 1874.

ONE of the leading Democratic members of Congress, and a Northerner at that, recently observed that the "sectional prejudices of the war would not be removed till Davis had his old seat in the Senate." This has its significance.

THE receipts of the Government from customs and internal revenue, last year, exclusive of the last two days, show a decrease in the former of about $4,500,000, and in the latter of $7,000,000, over the corresponding period of 1874.

THERE were far fewer business changes throughout the country this year than is usually the case with the incoming new year. But few new firms have been formed, mercantile business just now offering no particular inducements for fresh ventures.

THE exports of Boston last year were larger and the imports smaller than they were respectively in the preceding year. The grain trade of that port is suffering severely for want of tonnage, though it is but a few years since that the tonnage of Boston far exceeded its ability to employ it.

THE tabular statement of the exports of Great Britain to this country during the eleven months of last year ended November 30, which has just been published by the Bureau of Statistics, shows a continued falling off in nearly all the commodities which constitute the bulk of our imports from that quarter.

THE statistics of the commerce of Milwaukee for last year show a remarkably good condition of trade in that city. The receipts of flour were 1,401,795 barrels, and the shipments 2,131,256 barrels. The receipts of wheat amounted to 27,797,221 bushels, and the shipments to 22,366,231 bushels, showing a gratifying increase over previous seasons.

NEARLY every Republican paper of character and influence approves the proposed retrenchment policy of Congress, and hopes it will be faithfully and determinedly carried out. Care must be taken, however, that nothing is done for the mere purpose of embarrassing the Government—and that is exactly the pit into which the Democrats are likely to fall.

IN BOSTON the January dividends, which are about the most satisfactory gauge of the condition of business during the past six months, more than hold their own with those of previous years. Ten million dollars will be paid out by the various corporations during the next few days, and this certainly ought to impart a healthful glow to business generally.

ONE of the most encouraging signs of the times is that public sentiment demands the exemplary punishment of fraudulent bankrupts, pernicious speculators and plunderers of the people's treasury. The new year has opened in the midst of a war upon corruption, and it is to be hoped the battle may be waged with relentless vigor until every swindler and defrauder has met with his just deserts. "Let no guilty man escape."

QUESTIONS of taxation are in the air we breathe. All the prominent journals of the country are earnestly discussing the important problems of lower taxation and cheaper government. How to devise means for the attainment of these desirable ends is the puzzle. It is evident, too, that our civic rulers feel that they have reached the limit of safety. If taxes are to be paid at all, they must be kept within paying bounds.

THE mortality record of New York for last year exceeded that of 1874 by 1,395 deaths; the number being 30,122, against 28,727. The increase is principally attributable to small-pox and diphtheria, which were the virulent epidemics to spread last year than during 1874. There were fewer deaths from violence, however. The number of births during the year, as shown by the record of vital statistics, was 23,813.

THE importations of dry goods at New York last month were still smaller than those for December 1874. The aggregate importations for the year amounted to a total of $101,273,224, against $106,520,405 in 1874, $14,263,638 in 1873, and $138,578,325 in 1872. The statistics show a steady diminution in the importation and consumption of nearly all descriptions of foreign fabrics. The heaviest decrease has been in manufactures of wool, and next to this comes the reduction in cotton goods.

THE New York *Tribune* is altogether out of its reckoning in claiming New York for the Democrats in the ensuing Presidential contest. Here are a few figures which may possibly dispel its fond illusion. Last fall the total Prohibition vote in that State was 86,986; in the previous election, 68,022. The Republican net gain was 233,933; Democratic gain 139,376; net Republican gain 94,547. Fully 50,000 of the votes classed as Independent are really Republican, and may confidently be expected to be cast for Republican Presidential electors next November.

A CORRESPONDENT takes the ground that "one of the greatest defects of GRANT'S character assumes a positive nobility—his steadfast belief in his friends." We do not so read the matter. Nobody believes the President to be personally venal and corrupt, but it is of painful record that he has repeatedly bestowed most outrageously in his choice of men to fill important public offices. He has seemed to like to have men about him with easy consciences; and if he could not see that something was likely to go wrong with such fellows as JOYCE and MCDONALD, it argues very poorly for his moral competency, that is all.

IN AN elaborate article on the financial and commercial outlook of the year upon which we have just entered, the *United States Economist* expresses the belief that it will be marked with a general improvement in business. That paper says:

"We may have several failures and suspensions, but none of a character to inspire alarm. There is a very large amount of commercial debt in the interior awaiting transfer to the seacoast. The drain of currency to the South has not yet ceased, but it will begin to flow back about the close of January. The increased facility for money is one of the most hopeful features of the situation; and for the first time in a long period business men begin to feel confidence in the future."

The *Bulletin* discourses in a similar vein, concluding, upon the whole, "that the past year has brought us comparatively near to a period of industrial and commercial restoration, and that the things to be feared are much fewer and those to be hoped for more numerous than they were a year ago."

THE annual statement of the gold and silver product of the Western States and Territories for last year, including British Columbia and the western coast of Mexico, places the aggregate yield at $80,899,037, an increase of $6,367,982 over the product of 1874, and the greatest yield ever known. A yield of ninety millions is expected for 1876, of which Nevada will produce fifty millions. In view of the rapid increase in our silver product, the question what shall be done with it is constantly growing in importance. The silver mines in Nevada have ore enough in sight to keep all the miners that can work there busy for years, and with the appliances they have discovered for getting it out, and the amount they are certain to put on the market for years to come, comes with the owners of the mines a great anxiety as to what they will do with it. A Washington correspondent states that a number of Pacific coast capitalists are already on hand at Washington with the purpose of introducing a bill, which they expect to carry through Congress at this session, making silver coins an unlimited legal tender in payment of debts.

COMMISSIONS.

As was to have been expected, the Legislative Investigation Committee appointed by the late Democratic Legislature of New York, has agreed upon a report recommending to the incoming Legislature the abolition of all commissions for the management of municipal affairs. This would wipe out the Park Commission, Police Commission, the Public Works Commission and the Dock Commission, and throw the vast patronage of these departments into the hands of the Democratic Mayor and Council. The objection, in the minds of this committee, is not to municipal commissions in general, but to the existence of such boards in a city where their existence interferes with the distribution of the city patronage through the recognized party sources.

In New York, where nearly everybody is corrupt, the several commissions for managing municipal business have not been any more honest than the other branches of the city government, but that is because of the prevalent low tone of public sentiment. They have not, it is true, been any better than the average; but they have been no worse, and the affairs of the city have certainly been as well managed by them as they would have been by the Mayor and Common Council. The latter, without much direct patronage, have been nearly as bad as bad can be; what they would have been, had they had all the city patronage in their hands, it would be very hard to guess.

In cities like Pittsburgh, where the city business is not overwhelming in its magnitude, there is and can be but little use for commissions; but in huge places such as New York and Philadelphia, they would seem to be indispensable. London is ruled almost exclusively by commissions under Parliamentary control. Outside the old city walls all the work is done by commissions except the purely local administration of the parish authorities; and it is safe to say that no central government could do it half as well. There is too much of it for any one central authority to manage, and a division of labor is the only resource in such cases. Paris, also, is largely under the control of boards which attend either to limited duties or to specified sections of the city.

It is very pretty in theory to say that each city should be an autonomy, and that concentration of responsibility in one hand, or in the hands of one body of men, will be sure to secure a faithful administration; but there is such a thing as piling too much power, too much responsibility and too much work upon one man or set of men. Where men have too much to do they must, of necessity, neglect some of their work, and do most of it poorly. It is not the part of wisdom to overload the servants of the public; and in all cases where the burden is too great for one set of shoulders the remedy is to be found in a division of labor and responsibility.

Of course, commissions are frequently failures, and in no case are they infallible except as a means of relief to overloaded officials; but in no instance has a commission failed more egregiously than some municipal governments possessing full powers and responsibilities. One thing is certain, neither a commission nor a city government will ever be much better than the people from whom they are chosen. Water will not rise above its level; and it is not to be expected that the servants of the people will be superior to the people themselves. A municipal commission is generally a fair average of the masses from whom it springs: and if one is corrupt, or weak, or incompetent, the other will be found to be not much different. The various commissions of New York have been up to the average of her people, generally; and it is the very childishness of folly to complain because the stream has not been able to rise above the fountain.

THE Chicago *Tribune* of Saturday publishes an important detailed review and summary of the business of that city during the past year. The aggregate wholesale business in produce, merchandise and manufactured goods was $657,000,000, against $639,000,000 in 1874. The only falling off was in transactions in farm products, and this was due largely to the less number of hogs. The number of hogs brought to Chicago in 1875 was 3,912,110, against 4,258,379 in 1874. This decrease caused a corresponding decline in the quantity of pork, lard, cut meats, etc. In cattle there was an increase from 843,966 head in 1874, to 920,843 in 1875. The total receipts of grain last year, reducing flour to bushels, were 79,595,059 bushels, against 95,611,713 bushels in 1874, a decline of 16,000,000, of which over 8,000,000 bushels were in corn and 5,500,000 bushels in wheat. The *Tribune* states that the increased value of the goods sold does not fairly illustrate the increase in the volume of business. Prices last year averaged ten per cent. less than in 1874, and consequently the average bulk or quantity of goods handled was over twenty per cent. greater than in 1874. The same was true of the sales of manufactured goods. To the increase in value, therefore, must be added the increase in quantity necessitated by the reduction in prices.

THE official exhibit of the canal commerce of Buffalo for last year, shows the total exports of flour and all kinds of grain from that port to have been 35,778,020 bushels, while those for 1874 were 41,253,498 bushels, a decrease of 5,559,478 bushels. In the coarse freight movement there was also a decline, the shipments of staves being only 77,924,443 for the season, while in 1874 they were 159,220,204. The exports of lumber also fell from 80,681,776 feet in 1874 to 65,485,338 feet last year. The shipments of pig iron, however, show a large increase; also the receipts of anthracite coal from the East by canal. The live stock trade of the city held its own. The receipts of cattle were 8,936 head in excess of those for 1874, and the arrivals of sheep were also greater than those of 1874 by 57,200 head. There was a falling off in hogs of 364,500, but the prices ranged so high that the money value of the business transacted was only $1,200 less than that of 1874.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Don't date your letters "eighteen hundred seventy—finger-blot."

Our immigration last year was one-half less than during the year before.

Wendell Phillips reiterates his old theory that Massachusetts should govern Boston.

The New Jersey cranberry patches are assessed at $613,993,106, which is berry good.

The Richmond *Whig* shrewdly suspects that Schurz will accept any State for a Senatorship.

Joyce is determined to get a pardon. He threatens to write poetry as long as he is locked up.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher will hereafter conduct the housekeeping department of the *Christian Union.*

A mongrel yellow dog is the mail-carrier between Minnesota and Dakota, Michigan, a distance of sixty miles.

California is happy over twenty inches of rain, which insures a good agricultural year for the Centennial.

Nature is the sworn foe of shams. The Temple of Juggernaut is being destroyed by the roots of a banyan tree.

According to the latest developments in Chicago, there is just one honest whisky establishment in that crooked city.

The next great engineering feat of modern times, to be commenced this year, will be the tunneling of the British channel.

President Grant celebrated his last New Year's but one in the White House on Saturday, with the customary reception.

Elaborate preliminaries for the great international rifle-shooting at Philadelphia during the Centennial Exhibition are on foot.

The inhabitants of Quebec gaily celebrated the repulse of the Americans from that city a hundred years ago, last Friday night.

The exultant scream of the American eagle on New Year's day was loud enough to be heard to the uttermost ends of the earth.

Estimates of pork packing at the West indicate a falling off last year of about 570,000 hogs, as compared with 1874, a decrease of nearly ten per cent.

An amendment to the German penal code is pending, intended to check emigration to America. It is already penal to entice Germans to emigrate by means of false representations. Now it is proposed to punish even true representations, when accompanied by any sort of encouragement.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

The New Year and Its Receptions—Holiday Toilets—The Antique Mania—Novelties.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

NEW YORK, December 31, 1875.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

All the brightness of winter, to very many in the large cities, clusters around the holidays, crowding them with varied and pleasant duties, but leaving the months which follow them a blank and dreary waste. It is rather unfortunate for the large class whose brief intervals of enjoyment only come to them by a species of forecalculation, that Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Years are set in such close proximity, for it makes the time and money necessary to do each of them justice difficult of achievement; it fills a few weeks with sweets and beauty and renders it very becoming, parisaic spring which follows (in Northern latitudes), harder by contrast.

Few would be willing, however, to relinquish any part of the joy which is associated with the holiday season—the anticipation, the preparation, the "coming home," the gifts, the brilliantly decorated shops, the Christmas trees, the wonderful stockings, the bonbons, which for once children are allowed to eat unreproved; and as a finality, the New Year's receptions, not much, and growing less every year with ultra fashionables, but still cherished by "old" families, and by busy people who do not make calls or attend receptions every day, and who, in the increasing solitude which attends crowds and the march of modern civilization, gladly cling to the beautiful and hospitable custom which binds them to the past.

New Year's day, in the most unruly families, is "mother's day;" the children monopolize Christmas, blow tin trumpets at dawn, and make such brilliant with noise to their hearts' content. But it is on the condition that they will be "good" at New Year's, allow the lace curtains to hang in symmetrical folds, and not clamor for the "nice things" when visitors are present.

New Year's day is a great possession to women who encamped five minutes on a small belleship and the admiration of a circle to the range afforded the wife of a poor and struggling man. For that one day, at least, she puts aside care, the anxiety to make ends meet, calls back brightness to her eyes, puts a touch of coquetry in her dress, and wonders as she tries the effect of a ribbon that used to be becoming, if she is really growing old so fast, and if the friends whom she hardly sees excepting upon this day, will discover it.

THE CARE OF THE DAY.

Among those society people who still observe the custom of first of January calls, it is now usual to specify the hours of receiving. Formerly "open house" was kept all day, and it was not unusual for the family to be surprised at breakfast by the ringing of the bell, and a card from an early caller, or had a certain amount of social business to get through, and went at it as he would the footing up of his ledger, taking the figures first, then the first and working his way through the list. Of late years the hours for beginning have grown later, until now, for before (mid-day) many ladies announce their New Year's receptions as a levee, commencing at 12 M., or 2, or 4 P. M., and ending at perhaps 10, 11, or 12 P. M.

NOVELTIES.

The uses to which the new cashmere lace is put are numerous and varied. The latest is the construction from it of lovely scarfs, ties and handkerchiefs for the neck. The pure ivory tint of this lace, the large mesh in which the net is woven, gives it wonderful softness and beauty and renders it very becoming, particularly to pale brunettes; tied loosely round the throat, the broad square ends and bows falling in front, the small scarfs of it are a charming addition to a street costume of dark brown, navy blue or invisible green, and fill an important place, for so many ladies have suits, including muff, trimmed with fur, that they do not need a fur "set," and these pretty scarfs and handkerchiefs are not only sufficient for warmth, and more economical, but infinitely prettier.

Silver lace, in point lace patterns, has been imported in small quantities, but is principally used for stage dresses and velvet jackets for young ladies. American ladies of really high fashion do not take very kindly to gold and silver trimmings of any kind, for even when they do not tarnish, they look somewhat tawdry. Decoration so showy, unless employed very judiciously, must have a taint of vulgarity or barbarity.

In jewels a new combination is effected, of steel and turquoise, which is very happy. The steel is cut to resemble small brilliants, and not only displays fine and really exquisite workmanship, but is very effective.

Scarfs are again in vogue for gentlemen, and new scarf pins consist of a palette of dead gold, dotted with colored enamel as if with paints, and mounted on a gold standard which forms the pin.

Gift rings are made of gold wire coiled round like a snake into four or five strands, the head raised and flattened, so that a diamond or opal of size may be set in it, and form its one glittering eye.

Ornaments for young ladies, which are in great demand for the New Year's day, consist of necklets of silver and gold small silver shells or coins, which form a fringe, a cross being mounted on the piece pendent in front. Ear rings, to match accompany these, and like a silver chatelaine or moyen-age girdle is worn with them, the outfit is complete.

Candles painted in small, delicate floral designs, for silver candle-sticks and candelabre, are among the pretty things which are new, though rather costly if put to use.

JENNIE JUNE.

PERSONAL.

Col. Villette, who assisted Gen. Bazaine to escape down the rope (by the back gate) from the island of Ste. Marguerite, is back out of prison and has gone into the wine business.

The Providence ladies are adopting a sensible mode of temperance work in a successful lecturing scheme given by women, in which the duty of women in the premises receives special attention.

At Crescent, New York, there live two twins by the name of Lansing, now in their seventy-fourth year, one of whom was born one year and one the next. The former came into the New Year's eve and the latter early New Year's morning.

A sister of Dorrance Atwater, Consul to the Society Islands, whose recent marriage to a native princess has attracted so much attention, lives in Westfield, Massachusetts, and she expects the Consul and his million dollar princess to visit her, the coming summer, and "take in" the Centennial Exhibition.

Newport, R. I., has a veritable Enoch Arden. Some forty years ago, a three-day bride suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. After the young husband had got through pulling out his hair, she returned, announced that she had obtained a divorce, and again vanished. Nearly half a century has by and by had its husband accumulations a family and shekels. The bride, after forty years of silence, has put in an appearance and asked for her husband. An animated conversation occurred between Mrs. No. 1 and 2, in which the former found that her old story about a divorce was a sham, and that she was really his wife. It is, we suppose, unnecessary to say that the lawyers, and not of love and the poets.

A correspondent of the New York *Post* contributes to that paper a copy of a curious original document which relates to Hull's surrender of Detroit, and which has never before been published. It is a letter from Governor Meigs to General Gano, and is as follows:

"URBANA, Aug. 23, 1812.

"Dear Gen'l—Grieved and astonished I enclose you a copy of the Articles of the Capitulation of Hull's Army. I am satisfied that all you have done is right. I wish to see you for reconsultation soon. I have about 300 men here. I hope to see you here. You will be informed hereafter at what you will read—the Event I expected 3 days before I got the information.

"Your great friend and ob't s'v't,

R. J. MEIGS."

"Gen. Gano.

Here follows the word "Treason."

The General Gano here addressed was a son of the Rev. John Gano, of Revolutionary memory, and a brother of Dr. Stephen Gano, of Providence. R. I. General Gano was one of the founders of the Cincinnati, and commanded the Ohio militia in the war of 1812.

Elements of Bone, Brain and Muscle.

That food contains the elements of bone, brain and muscle, and in a healthy system, properly nourished, the manufacture of these various constituents is uninterrupted night or day. On the other hand when digestion or assimilation are imperfect, the manufacture is obstructed, and the system, instead of being counteracted by the reparative processes of health, is tainted, and starts with seeds of decay. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are peculiarly fitted to overcome the causes which lead to untimely decadence of the vital energies, removing as they do all obstacles to complete digestion and assimilation of the food, thus insuring an ample waste of physical substance. For the loss of strength consequent upon lingering illnesses, they are the best possible remedy, and their bracing effects upon the system enable it to withstand hurtful atmospheric influences inducive of malaria.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Has never been known to fail in the cure of weakness attended with symptoms, indisposition to exertion, loss of memory, difficulty of breathing, zeuralgia, wakefulness, dizziness, nervous trembling, dreadful horror of death, night sweats, cold feet, flushes of heat, drowsiness after meals, universal lassitude of the muscular system, enormous appetite, with dyspeptic symptoms, pallid countenance and repulsion of the human face, blood spots on the back, heaviness of the eyelids, frequent black spots floating before the eyes, wakefulness at night, and loss of sight, want of attention, etc. These symptoms all arise from a weakness, for which E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron is, if never fails. Thousands are now enjoying health who have used it. Get the genuine. Sold at $1 per bottles. Take only E. F. Kunkel's. Depot and Office, No. 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. This truly valuable tonic has been so flooded with spurious preparations of all classes of the community that it is now deemed indispensable to call for Kunkel's. It builds up, purifies the blood and gives tone to the stomach, restores the appetite and strengthens the nerves. Before you ask a trial of the valuable tonic. Price $1 per bottle. E. F. KUNKEL, Sole Proprietor, No. 259 North Ninth street, below Vine, Philadelphia, Pa. Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron, and take no other. If dealers do not keep it, send a photograph of the proprietor on each wrapper, all other is counterfeit. Sold by all druggists.

Tape Worm Removed Alive.

Head and all complete in two hours. No fee till head passed. Send Pin and Stamp for circular. Dr. KEAN, 259 North Ninth street. Advice free. No fee until cured. Ask for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price $1, and guaranteed. Send for circular. MWF

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43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1863.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of SIX Per Cent. per annum, on the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MANN, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, Jr., Brand Ammon, Robert Patterson, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Ege, John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

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DRY GOODS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY AT WM. SEMPLE'S.

FOR THE NEW YEAR!

NOW ON OUR COUNTERS FOR JANUARY, SPECIAL BARGAINS IN

DRESS GOODS,

OF ALL KINDS.

Black Mohairs and Alpacas,

Of our own importation, all the different grades and qualities, from 25c to 75c upwards. The best value we ever had the pleasure of offering.

Extra good qualities for the money in

Black Cashmeres.

A Full Assortment of

Deep Mourning Goods,

Of All Kinds.

The very best bargains in a large and new assortment of COLORED DRESS GOODS, 4c., 5c., 6c., with a choice variety of newest novelties in Suitings, all the very latest effects.

Our line of COLORED DRESS GOODS, at 12½c to 25c upwards, is unusually attractive and varied—splendid bargains.

A nice assortment of TYCOON REPPS for Wrappers, at 12½c, 15c and 18¾c, worth 18¾c and 25c.

DRESS SILKS,

AT BARGAINS.

At 75c and $1, Good Black Dress Silks.
At $1 12½, $1 25, $1 37½ and $1 50, extra value in Black Silks.
At $1 75 and $1 87½, Hand Loom Black Dress Silks.
At $1 25, an unusual good bargain in Colored Silks, choice colors, all the newest desirable shades.

Our line of Silks was never so replete as at present, and would respectfully invite our lady patrons to give them a comparison, as they are real bargains.

DRY GOODS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY AT WM. SEMPLE'S.

FOR THE NEW YEAR!

BARGAINS IN LADIES AND GENT'S

FURNISHING GOODS, &C.

At 12½c, Men's all Linen Handkerchiefs, large size.
At 18¾c, Men's all Linen Handkerchiefs, worth 25c.
At 25c, very fine Linen Handkerchiefs, for Gent's, worth 37½c. And finer goods at equally low prices. The above line of Handkerchiefs were bought in London, a bankrupt lot, at a sacrifice from original prices, imported by ourselves and are unusual good value.

Every description of Ladies and Misses' Handkerchiefs, Colored and Embroidered Handkerchiefs for Ladies, at a bargain.

We would invite special attention to our line of

Ladies' Silk Ties and Scarfs.

Extraordinary Good Bargains Offered.

At 25c, some Scarfs worth $1 and more. Very large variety.
Ladies' White Silk Mufflers and Neck Handkerchiefs.
Ladies' Colored and Colored Bordered Silk Neck Handkerchiefs.

A Very Complete Line of

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

Everything desirable and most fashionable styles of Neckwear, &c., at the lowest prices.

Ladies' White and Colored Nubias.
Children's Real Brown Hoods.
Children's Sacques and Caps.

TRIMMINGS,

Of every description, for Suits, Dresses, Sacques, &c.

HATS, BONNETS,

And full lines of New Millenery Goods.

An unusually attractive stock in all departments and special low prices in all of them.

James Caldwell & Co.

Have Just Opened a Large Assortment of

LUPINS, FRENCH MERINOS AND CASHMERES,

IN BLACK AND CLOTH SHADES.

These Goods were bought for the recent Closing Out Auction Sale of Lupin's fabrics in New York. We are consequently offering them at a great reduction on early season prices. Parties in want of Choice Goods will find this a rare opportunity to buy Fine Ladies' Silk Ties and Scarfs.

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77 and 79 Ma

Sole Agents for John Clark, Jr.'s, Spool Cotton, on Black Spools.

FANCY DRESS GOODS.

PLAIDS, CAMELS' HAIR CLOTHS and KNICKERBOCKER EFFECTS at Greatly Reduced Prices. A Large Stock of

LADIES' FINE FURS

Seal Sacques, Muffs and Boas,

LADIES' CLOTH CLOAKS,

SACQUES AND JACKETS,

From Six to Ten Dollars, former price Eight to Fifteen Dollars. A few Very Choice

Black Silk Suits,

Trimmed with Velvet, at One Hundred Dollars, reduced from One Hundred and Seventy-five Dollars. Our stock of

BLACK AND FANCY DRESS SILKS

VERY COMPLETE.

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MILLINERY, STRAW GOODS, &C.

MILLINERY AND STRAW GOODS!

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Ladies', Misses' and Children's

Trimmed or Untrimmed Hats,

Ribbons, Flowers, Laces,

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LEGAL.

IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE CRAWFORD & CO., Debtors.

Western District of Pennsylvania, ss.

Take notice that a meeting of the Creditors of said George Crawford & Co., will be held at the office of the undersigned, Register in Bankruptcy, No. 12 Church avenue, in the city of Allegheny, Pa., on FRIDAY, the 14th day of January, A. D. 1876, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of considering and passing upon a proposition to be made to the Hon. George Crawford & Co., in full settlement and satisfaction of all debts due to them; and further, that unless the creditors attend at said meeting, I will attend at the above mentioned time and place to conduct the proceedings at said meeting. Creditors can attend either in person or by proxy duly appointed.

N. W. SHAFER,
Register in Bankruptcy.

WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, ss:

At Pittsburgh, the 21st day of December, A. D. 1875.

The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of WILLIAM RODGERS, of Leechburg, in the county of Armstrong and State of Pennsylvania, and THOMAS I. BURCHFIELD, of Allegheny city, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, within said District, who have been adjudged Bankrupts upon their own petition by the District Court of said District.

R. MILLER, JR.,
No. 81 Fourth avenue, Assignee.
Pittsburgh, December 22, 1875.

HOTELS.

GIRARD HOUSE,

Corner Ninth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.

McKibbin, Vosburg & Co,
CHAMBERS McKIBBIN, ROBERT H. VOSBURG, JERE. McKIBBIN.

The above magnificent property has passed into our possession. In the elegance of its interior arrangements, its apartments and Table, it shall equal any Hotel in the country.

PATENTS.

Persons desiring to procure obtain information from [illegible] or whether an invention is patentable, can [illegible] by addressing MUNN & CO., [illegible] corner of Second and F streets, Washington, D. C. Send for circular.

BANK STATEMENTS.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE DIAMOND NATIONAL BANK, at Pittsburgh, in the State of Pennsylvania, at the close of business, December 17, 1875.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts	$356,973 74
Overdrafts	36
U. S. Bonds to Secure Circulation	50,000 00
Due from Approved Reserve Agents	10,520 31
Due from other National Banks	17,786 54
Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures	87,340 05
Current Expenses and Taxes Paid	999 99
Checks and other Cash Items	13,046 43
Bills of other National Banks	8,640 00
Fractional Currency (including nickels)	567 85
Legal Tender Notes	95,700 00
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer (five per cent. of circulation)	2,250 00
	$645,734 41

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in	$200,000 00
Surplus Fund	50,000 00
Other Undivided Profits	5,489 49
National Bank Notes Outstanding	43,090 00
Dividends Unpaid	863 00
Individual Deposits, subject to check	391,169 28
	$645,734 41

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, } ss:

I, John S. Scully, Cashier of the Diamond National Bank, of Pittsburgh, Pa., do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOHN S. SCULLY, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of December, 1875.

WM. F. ROBB, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:

A. GARRISON,
WM. M. HERSH,
JOS. FLEMING, } Directors.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK, at Pittsburgh, in the State of Pennsylvania, at the close of business December 17, 1875.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts	$1,036,225 27
Overdrafts	6,244 20
U. S. Bonds to Secure Circulation	450,000 00
Other Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages	53,079 26
Due from Approved Reserve Agents	$ 46,901 82
Due from other National Banks	29,836 85
Due from State Banks and Bankers	15,806 79
Real Estate, Furniture, and Fixtures	92,545 46
Current Expenses and Taxes paid	13,950 26
Checks on Banks in the Same City for Clearing-House	$ 867 61
Exchanges for Clearing House	100,540 27
Bills of other National Banks	10,013 00
Fractional Currency (including Nickels)	628 75
Legal Tender Notes	145,200 00
	257,251 63
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer, five per cent. of Circulation	20,250 00
	$2,011,834 14

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in	$ 500,000 00
Surplus Fund	100,000 00
Other Undivided Profits	126,728 44
National Bank Notes Outstanding	345,300 00
State Bank Notes Outstanding	1,664 00
Dividends Unpaid	2,865 00
Individual Deposits subject to Check	$ 890,234 56
Demand Certificates of Deposit	9,150 00
Due to other National Banks	2,937 68
Due to State Banks and Bankers	18,378 19
	920,500 43
	$2,011,834 14

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, } ss:

I, W. McCandless, Cashier of the Allegheny National Bank, of Pittsburgh, Pa., do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. MCCANDLESS, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of December, 1875.

S. SMITH, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:

J. W. COOK,
JOSHUA RHODES,
JNO. CALDWELL, } Directors.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE FIFTH NATIONAL BANK, at PITTSBURGH, in the State of Pennsylvania, at the close of business, December 17, 1875.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts	$185,737 77
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	3,379 25
U. S. Bonds to secure Circulation	100,000 00
Due from Approved Reserve Agents	34,830 17
Due from other National Banks	4,370 00
Due from State Banks and Bankers	4,309 04
Furniture and Fixtures	3,470 00
Current Expenses and Taxes Paid	4,309 04
Premiums paid on Coin Bonds	1,500 00
Bills of other National Banks	2,000 00
Fractional Currency (including Nickels)	254 00
Specie (including gold Treasury Notes)	254 00
Legal Tender Notes	18,400 00
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer (five per cent. of Circulation)	4,500 00
Total	$368,012 89

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in	$100,000 00
Surplus Fund	8,000 00
Other Undivided Profits	1,366 00
National Bank Notes Outstanding	90,000 00
Individual Deposits subject to check	178,646 89
Time Certificates of Deposits	1,000 00
Due to other National Banks	21 23
Due to State Banks and Bankers	30 166 88
Notes and Bills Rediscounted	63,347 50
	5,364 00
Total	$368,012 89

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, } ss.

I, Halsey Williams, Cashier of the above named Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

H. WILLIAMS, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of December, 1875.

F. L. STEPHENSON, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:

ROBERT ARTHURS

FINANCE AND TRADE

SATURDAY EVENING, January 1, 1876.

As the day has been faithfully observed as a holiday, we have no local financial news to report.

As a matter of great importance and of universal interest to the banks, we give the report of the Committee on Bank Taxation to the New York City Clearing House Association.

The committee chosen at a meeting of bank officers on the 20th of October last, to whom was submitted the entire subject of bank taxation, reported as follows:

The latest authority under which States exercise the right to tax national banks is found in the law of the United States of February 10, 1868, which provides that the Legislature of each State may determine and direct the manner and place of taxing all the shares of national banks located within said State, subject to the restriction that the taxation shall not be at a greater rate than is assessed upon any other moneyed capital in the hands of individual citizens of such State.

The New York State law of 1868 reads as follows: "No tax shall hereafter be assessed upon the capital of any bank or banking association organized under the authority of this State or of the United States, but the stockholders in such banks or banking associations shall be assessed and taxed on the value of their shares of stock therein. * * * But no tax at a greater rate than is assessed upon other moneyed capital in the hands of individuals in this State."

It is interesting carefully to observe the phraseology of the law of 1868, in order to see if that is not explained by the law of the preceding year, in reference to what was intended by the Legislature when it used the phraseology of their last act. The law of 1866 provides that "all shares in any banking association organized under the laws of the United States Congress, shall be included in the assessment of taxes, but not at a greater rate than is assessed upon other moneyed capital, &c., provided that the tax so imposed upon such shares shall not exceed the par value thereof."

This was the express provision in law of "par value." When value was used in lieu of it not reasonable to infer that par value was understood? Especially when that definition was universally accepted as the true one, and has been acted on by the authorities of the State and city for ten years, without a question of its correctness. Your committee cannot presume that the New York Legislature intended that its meaning, in so important a matter, should be left to a forced construction.

But now the Tax Commissioners claim the right to tax the surplus alike of national and State banks, and not only the actual surplus, but what appears to be the aggregate amount of stock, deposit, interest and exchange added together, as they appear on the books of the bank, making no allowance for discounted unearned, doubted debts or contingent liabilities.

It is quite evident, also, that in the effort when the country must make in order to return to a specie currency, the commercial community will need all the aid that the banks can possibly supply, and your committee would regard it as a national calamity if banking institutions should find themselves, at such an important juncture, with impaired surplus reserves, which every prudent bank should endeavor to possess to the extent of at least fifty percent of capital.

While, then, your committee emphatically disclaim for you and for themselves any desire to escape or evade the payment of a full share of taxes, both State and United States, they cannot resist the conviction that banks are required to do more, especially under the recent construction of the New York State law.

This premeditated tax squarely conflicts with sound banking. And, so far as the policy of the United States can be inferred from its acts, is in direct opposition to the intent of the General Government. For upon this subject or surplus the National Bank act sets forth section 3, as follows: "The directors may semi-annually declare a dividend of so much of the net profits of the preceding half year in excess of ten per cent. of the capital stock as they shall think proper, and until the same shall amount to twenty per cent. of its capital stock."

But on that point the Tax Commissioners of New York city practically say to the directors: "If you comply with this law and pay to your every year three per cent. on all additions made to your surplus fund," Your committee ask, is the United States to be thus circumvented, to have its sons evasive purpose frustrated by local or State authority? In other words, is the Government willing to lend itself to the creation of a brood of weak banks, such as there certainly will be, if banks are forced to a division of their surplus funds—and several have already commenced such division instead of building up strong and safe banks that will command the confidence of the public? Seriously, is not any State law void that tends to defeat the intention of Congress?

For, observe, the United States not only do not tax the surplus, but they allow a bank to deduct from its capital stock all United States bonds whether on hand or deposited in Washington—and require payment of tax only on the balance. While the city authorities allow no such deduction, but require payment to be paid on the full value of bank shares, including the sum invested in United States stocks. Thus too, when other personal property is reduced in valuation to sixty cents on the dollar and the bank share is kept at 100, a discrimination of forty per cent. against the banks. Now, what difference, in result, does it make, whether the banks are assessed at a greater rate of taxation (which the law expressly prohibits), or whether they are under an increase in the valuation of bank property of forty per cent. over other property? It should not be overlooked, too, that in the taxation of individual States bonds and even legal tenders are exempt from taxation altogether.

Your committee having thus attempted to show how taxation bears unequally upon banks, both national and State, it only remains to suggest the remedy—it is threefold:

First—An application should be made to the State Legislature to enact, that by the use of the word "value" in the law of 1866 par value is intended.

Second—Apply to Congress to restrict and define the right reserved to the States as to tax national banks and to enact that taxation shall not exceed a certain percentage on the shares, and that the surplus fund shall be exempt from taxation.

Third—The last source of relief is the only one in the hands of bank managers—namely, to decline to pay to the city the tax assessed on the shareholders of the several banks.

The Secretary of the Treasury, however, does not in his report recommend any relief on the contrary, he advises Congress to authorize the issue of a new bond at four per cent. interest, instead of five, as a basis for bank circulation, and for the retirement of the existing taxes. This would leave, after the payment of the annual one per cent. tax on circulation, only three per cent. interest for all such investments—further reducing, by so much, the income from circulation.

In consideration, your Committee submit for your approval the following resolutions:

Whereas, The banks in the city of New York for the mutual convenience of their stockholders, the Tax Commissioners and themselves, have for about ten years past voluntarily assumed the payment of State, county and city taxes as assessed upon shareholders, and which shares have been uniformly assessed at their par value; and whereas, it is now proposed for the first time by the Tax Commissioners to increase the valuation of such shares for taxation by adding the normal surplus of the banks to the par value of the shares, thus raising a legal question which banks cannot submit to the taxes by the General Government upon the capital, circulation and deposits of banks, would create an intolerable burden upon their business, which is already excessively taxed; therefore,

Resolved, That in view of the position in which the banks are placed, between the General and State governments—being liable to indefinite taxation by both—a committee be appointed to present to Congress and to the State Legislature such suggestions in regard to this subject as will lead to an early and equitable adjustment and a proper limitation of bank taxation.

Resolved, Further, that the banks agree together that they will henceforth decline further voluntary payment of taxes assessed upon the holders of their shares—the law not requiring such payment from the banks—and leave the taxes to be collected under the operation of existing laws.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, January 1, 1876.

Trade on Saturday was suspended so far as relates to merchandise, being a legal holiday. The weather being very fine caused the day to be strictly observed. Such weather for the first of January was never known by even the oldest inhabitants. In regard to prices we have no changes to record.

Receipts of Produce.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

Flour, bbls	1,304	Corn, bus	500
Wheat, bus	300	Barley, bus	—
Rye, bus	945	Oats, bus	3,010
Butter, pkgs	76	Bacon, pcs	6,250
Bacon, lbs	20	Potatoes, bus	3,440
Hay, bales	325		

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city during the week ending today, compared with the corresponding receipts for the three preceding weeks, are as follows:

Week ending	Dec. 11.	Dec. 18.	Dec. 25.	Jan. 1.
Flour, bbls	8,714	7,467	8,005	6,126
Apples, bbls	1,197	794	920	25
Cheese, lbs	907	312	1,988	338
Corn, bus	3,952	11,902	8,641	12,318
Wheat, bus	9,780	8,450	7,200	4,700
Barley, bus	15,005	6,252	9,000	14,368
Rye, bus	357	559	213	3,046
Oats, bus	8,192	25,870	23,580	14,420
Butter, pkgs	422	271	329	402
Bacon, pcs	14,390	7,922	26,465	13,268
Bacon, lcs	0	115	207	1,550
Potatoes, bus	4,912	1,410	7,040	7,560
Hay, bales	2,223	1,561	2,450	1,926

It will be seen by the above that as a general thing, previous receipts have been well maintained. There was, however, a falling off in some and an increase in others.

In a short time trade is expected to revive, when activity will take the place of inactivity. With the close of the year we have a reasonable right to expect the improvement in business generally that we have been anxiously waiting for before the present month has passed away. Our rivers are in navigable order from the headwaters to the mouth. Purchasers will find our dealers well supplied with a tiden suitable for the season.

In our next we will publish a full and reliable report in detail.

Petroleum—Weekly Review.

January 1.—The following are the receipts of crude for the past week, by pipe line and railroad, with a comparison table for previous years: also the exports of refined eastward by the various routes for the past week ending this date, per ton, four months since:

Roads.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
P. R. R.	102,641	120,593	93,370	116,992	28,711
A. V. R. R.	631,302	625,467	776,576	776,822	390,207
P. & C. R. R.					219,228
Total	733,943	743,510	869,946	894,784	647,146

Saturday being the first of January, was observed as a holiday and there were no transactions.

IRON MARKETS.

CINCINNATI.

[By E. R. Hull & Co.]

December 31, 1875.—The demand and prospects continue about as reported in our last. Prices no change as yet in prices.

Herewith find quotations of pig iron, for week ending this date, per ton, four months since:

Hanging Rock, No. 1 charcoal	$25 00@26 00
Hanging Rock, No. 2 charcoal	23 00@24 00
Hanging Rock, forge charcoal	21 00@22 00
Southern brands, coke charcoal	23 00@24 00
Virginia No. 1 foundry	24 00@25 00
Virginia No. 2 foundry	22 50@23 00
Virginia forge foundry	21 00@22 00

STONE-COAL AND COKE.

Hanging Rock No. 1	$23 00@24 00
Hanging Rock, forge	21 00
Red Short, No. 1	27 00
Red Short, forge	24 00@25 00

COLD BLAST.

Hanging Rock car wheel	$40 00@50 00
Missouri car wheel	35 00@40 00
Southern brands car wheel	30 00@40 00
Machinery and forge	30 00@35 00

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK.

Canada	January 4	London.
City of Chester	January 4	Liverpool.
Nevada	January 4	Liverpool.
Parthia	January 5	Liverpool.
Main	January 6	Rotterdam.
Saller	January 6	Bremen.
City of Montreal	January 6	Liverpool.
Australasian	January 8	Liverpool.
Celtic	January 8	Liverpool.
Frisian	January 8	Havre.
Helvetia	January 8	Liverpool.
Hecla	January 8	Bremen.
Rhein	January 8	Antwerp.
Algeria	January 12	Liverpool.
Ethiopia	January 12	Glasgow.
State of Indiana	January 13	Glasgow.
Suevia	January 13	Hamburg.
City of New York	January 15	Liverpool.
Adriatic	January 15	Liverpool.
Spain	January 15	Liverpool.
Arcadia	January 15	Glasgow.
Hermann	January 15	Bremen.
Idaho	January 18	Liverpool.
Java	January 20	Liverpool.
Gellert	January 20	Hamburg.
Switzerland	January 20	Antwerp.
City of Richmond	January 22	Liverpool.
Baltic	January 22	Liverpool.
Victoria	January 25	Glasgow.
Hohenstaufen	January 22	Bremen.
Lafayette	January 22	Havre.
Navarino	January 22	Hull.
Dakota	January 25	Liverpool.
Bessia	January 25	Liverpool.
Ste of Pennsylvania	January 27	Glasgow.
Klopstock	January 27	Hamburg.
Republic	January 29	Liverpool.
City of Brooklyn	January 29	Liverpool.
Bolivia	January 29	Glasgow.

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Lord Clive	January 6	Liverpool.
Ohio	January 15	Liverpool.
Pennsylvania	January 20	Liverpool.
Indiana	January 27	Liverpool.
Switzerland	January 28	Antwerp.

FROM BOSTON.

Batavia	January 8	Liverpool.
Atlas	January 22	Liverpool.

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

Middleport.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MIDDLEPORT, O., January 2, 1876.

River falling. Up—Andes, Alice Brown and B. D. Wood. Down—John Penny, Diamond, Lion, I. N. Phillips, My Choice, Bengal Tiger, Hudson and Storm, for Steubenville, with two loaded barges. Weather clear and cool.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., January 2, 1876.

River falling; 7 feet. Weather cloudy; thermometer 52.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GREENSBORO, PA., January 2, 1876.

River 5 feet 6 inches and stationary. Weather cloudy.

Morgantown.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA., January 2, 1876.

River 2 feet 3 inches and falling. Weather cloudy; thermometer 38.

Wheeling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. VA., January 2, 1876.

River falling, with 12 feet 6 inches in the channel. Departed—Salt Valley and Carrie Brooks, Pittsburgh. Weather clear and mild.

For Additional Dispatches see Fourth Page

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

Chieftain.....Hendricks.....Geneva.
Elizabeth.....Boyd.....Elizabeth.
Market Boy.....Porter.....Wheeling.
Salt Valley.....Sanford.....Zanesville.
Carrie Brooks..Darlington.....Zanesville.

Departed.

Elector.....Abrams.....Geneva.
Elizabeth.....Boyd.....Elizabeth.
Market Boy.....Porter.....Wheeling.

MONONGAHELA—Eight feet three inches and falling slowly.

Boats Advertised for This Day.

Brownsville and Geneva.....S A. M. and 4 P. M.
Ironton.....Salt Valley.....Sanford.....1 P. M.

THE marks last evening indicated eight feet three inches and falling slowly. The weather during the day was pleasant, but cooler than Sunday. Trade was pretty much suspended in all departments.

FREIGHT on the upper Mississippi is reported plenty.

CINCINNATI.—Wharfage receipts for the week, $109.

THE steamer Exchange has one hundred tons of pig metal.

THE Iron Mountain had 2,200 tons of freight on leaving Cincinnati.

THE towboats BOAZ, Grand Lake, Hornet and D. B. Wood are *en route* for this city with empty tows.

THE New Orleans *Bulletin* says: The John L. Rhoads is one of the best sternwheel boats ever built. Correct.

THE Grand Republic will be completed and ready to leave St. Louis for New Orleans, February 20, on her first trip.

THE steamer Emma Graham, Capt. Cooper, left Cincinnati on Saturday for this port. She will return on Wednesday.

THE rise in the Arkansas stopped short too suddenly for the necessities of the planters, shippers and others along its banks.

HARBIN & NOWLAND, of Memphis, propose building a new boat 180 feet long, to take the place of the Fort Gibson, which sank recently.

ANDREW RIELING, of Bellevue, Iowa, is a boatbuilder. He is now building a new steamboat 160 feet long with 29 feet beam and 5 feet hold.

THERE are at present at the Wilson Grove Coal Landing, New Orleans, two hundred loaded coalboats, with an aggregate of 1,700,000 bushels of coal.

THE wharfage collections at Cincinnati for the year 1875 amounted to $5,469.55. The largest amount collected in any one month was $979.10, and the smallest was in January, being $411.65.

THE washing away of Dam No. 1, in Kentucky river, will cause a suspension of navigation in that stream for coal boats and tows for five or six months. There is plenty of coal up that stream, however.

THE Mary Miller was appraised, yesterday, at Memphis, by Captains C. B. Church, John T. Washington and Ad. Storm, for $4,500. Captain G. W. Clack was disaffected at the appraisement, and offered the Marshal $5,000 for the boat.

CAPTAIN S. A. TOMS, of the Grand Lake, was married to Miss Lizzie Constance, of Carrollton, Miss. The happy pair will make the bridal trip to New Orleans on the Captain's fast and fine towboat. The ceremony was performed in Carondelet in the presence of a number of friends.

R. W. DUGAN arrived from St. Louis in a bad humor. He is angry because his wrecking boat T. F. Eckert has not been called to the relief of the boats lately sunk. The Illinois and Belle of Texas having gone into the wrecking business, Dugan has made up his mind to contract with Dave Campbell to lengthen the Eckert two hundred feet and start in business as a Chicot and Memphis packet.

FERDINAND VOGEY, of Jeffersonville, Indiana, has invented a new water wheel, which, it is claimed, will town up logs placed in any convenient body of water, according to the speed of the current, in high or low water, the depth being no impediment, as the simple automatic working of the bucket keeps a solid front to the current, producing a constant, steady motion, which is always so desirable in mills of any and all kinds.

THE St. Louis *Republican* says: The election of Hull Inspector for the St. Louis Board of Underwriters took place on Tuesday, and Mr. Chris. Oppenlander, the present incumbent, was re-elected. Since 1841 six Hull Inspectors of this city have died. These are: George W. Sparhawk, Singleton, Dodge, Henry W. Smith, Dunnica and Miller. Oppenlander gives promise of reaching a green and happy old age.

THE A. J. Baker left for the mouth of White river, stopping on the way for coal barges. She took to Grand Tower four barges of iron ore writers and the manufacturing company.

ST. LOUIS—McMillan *et al. vs.* Shehan and Loier, owners of the towboat Dolphin, is something like the style of the suit that will be before the United States District Court for its decisions as to the validity of complainant's captain claims. Although it was thought that all opposition to the McMillan capstan claims had ceased, it is said that the Keokuk Northern Line Packet Company, Missouri River Packet Company and Illinois Packet Company have united their forces to carry the Shehan and Loier case through. Various parties have settled with the patentees.

WILL HAYS, of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, says: The towboat Grand Lake ain't no slouch. Coming up this last trip, she jumped out after the famous Robert E. Lee below Vicksburg, and passed her under way. Capt. Cannon must build a fast one if he intends to beat these fiery, untamed towboats.

THE Grand Lake arrived from New Orleans on Thursday. She took down fourteen loaded coalboats, and brought one empty. She had been to Vicksburg. She made the quickest trip that has been made for two years. John Richardson and Jim Rafferty were her pilots. She lost forty-eight hours by fog and cleaned out boilers at Memphis.

Steamboats Lost and Dismantled in 1875.

From the annual report of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce we extract the following list of the vessels plying between Cincinnati and other ports, which have been destroyed, dismantled, &c., for the year ending August 31, 1875, as the same have been reported to R. H. Stephenson, Esq., collector of Customs at this port, together with such vessels as have been reported destroyed, &c., concerning which, information has been received through other sources:

Name.	Tonage.	Remarks.
Anna	*839.16	Sunk and wreck.
Argosy	245	Wrecked in ice.
Ashland No. 1	*54.39	Broken up.
Ben Woodworth	120	Blown up.
C. A. sandtower	*39.22	Sunk and wreck.
Champion No. 6	*323.45	Dismantled.
Chas Bodmann	*1,461.72	Burned.
Clark Scott	138	Sunk and wreck.
Exporter	*1,381.59	Burned.
Experiment	222	Burned.
F. C. Miller	*111.32	Broken up.
Goose	*50.65	Broken up.
John Kilgour	*207.72	Dismantled.
Juniata	444	Burned.
John Kyle	1,072	Burned.
Lawrence	*384.94	Dismantled.
Mattie Roberts	*272.82	Dismantled.
Mollie Ebert	*272.43	Burned.
Messenger	368	Dismantled.
Portsmouth and Springfield Ferry	*41.70	Dismantled.
Paragon	920	Burned.
Rising Sun	*98.35	Broken up.
R. R. Hudson	273	Wrecked.
R. W. Skillinger	200	Burned.
Shamrock	*372.54	Dismantled.
Sea Gull	*28.50	Sunk and wreck.
Willie S	*75.36	Sunk and wreck.
Wm. B rubart	*57.15	Dismantled.
W. D. Kelly	*180.83	Sunk and wreck.

*Tonnage of both upper and lower decks, as the same appears in the books of the Collector at Cincinnati. All other vessels reported, embrace only the tonnage of the lower deck, as the second deck is not included in the return. R. H. Pierce, Marine Inspector and Surveyor for Cincinnati Underwriters.

RECEIPTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway.

G H Prescott, 64 bbls r r oil; J McCullough, 50 do spts; Getty & Co, 25 do do spts; Walker & Co, 50 pkts lard, 50 cases do; F Sellers, 90 pkts do; E S Davis, 1 bx midse; Voigt, M & Co, 1 doz galls r r lubricating oil; J F Williams, 1 lever; 1 spade and 1 machine, 1 lever; W H Berger, 1 bx zinc; Chess, Smythe & Co, 1 do tacks; F Kaiser, 10 bbls spts; J H Parker, 10 do do; Hamilton, bx 1 bx candles, 2 do do; Lincoln; R Owens, 57 bbls hams; Lewis O & J, 7 do do; Hays; J H Barker, 2 pkgs pots; Wm McKee, 1 bx castings; Moorhead, McCullough & Co, 8 cars 1 stone; S W Jerkinson, 25 cases do; F Sellers, 30 pkts do; E S Davis, 1 bx midse; Voigt, M & Co, 1 doz galls r r lubricating oil; Williams, 1 lever; and p machine, 1 lever; W H Berger, 1 bx zinc; Chess, Smythe & Co, 1 do tacks; F Kaiser, 10 bbls spts; J H Parker, 10 do do; Hamilton, bx 1 bx candles, 2 do do; Lincoln; R Owens, 57 bbls hams; Lewis O & J, 7 do do; Hays; J H Barker, 2 pkgs pots; Wm McKee, 1 bx castings; Moorhead, McCullough & Co, 8 cars 1 stone; S W Jerkinson, 25 cases do; F Sellers, 30 pkts do; E S Davis, 1 bx midse; Voigt, M & Co, 1 doz galls r r lubricating oil; Williams

CITY MATTERS.

FOR eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV. Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 2, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	29.944	55	73	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	29.908	60	44	S. W.	Fresh.	Fair.
9 P. M..	30.182	44	67	S. W.	Fresh.	Clear.

Mean barometer..30.054 Highest thermom....65
Mean thermom.... 50.7 Lowest thermom....44

Iron City College.

Corner Penn avenue and Sixth street. Open day and evening. Students received at any time. For terms, call or address J. C. Smith, A. M., Principal.

The Pittsburgh Female College

will reopen January 3. Charges reduced. Room for only six more boarders. Apply to Rev. I. C. Pershing, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Beaver College.

Winter session opens January 4th. This institution has continued to flourish notwithstanding the panic. Prices lower than any first class institution in or about the city. R. F. TAYLOR.

Pittock's Annual Dinner.

The seventeenth New Year's dinner, given by Mr. John W. Pittock to the newsboys and bootblacks, attracted a great crowd of citizens, including many ladies, to old City Hall on Saturday afternoon. More than three hundred boys were feasted to their heart's content and the spectators enjoyed the scene as much as the boys enjoyed the dinner.

Killed on the Pan Handle.

Saturday morning the mangled remains of Charles Coll, a puddler employed at the Clinton Mills, was found on the Pan Handle Railroad, near the abutment of the Point Bridge. The deceased had been over in the city and was on his way home when the fatal accident occurred. He resided in the Thirty-fourth ward, a short distance from the place where the body was found. The Coroner will hold an inquest this evening.

Reckless Shooting.

Several cases of reckless shooting in Allegheny Friday night have come to our knowledge. A pistol was fired on North avenue, the ball passing through the door of Miller's cigar store and lodging in the counter, missing a little boy by only a few inches. Saturday morning, shortly after midnight, a bullet went crashing through a window of the sleeping room of S. M. Raymond, Esq., at No. 54 Montgomery avenue, and was buried in the inside shutter. The practice of using firearms on the streets should not be tolerated under any circumstances.

New Article of Glass Manufacture.

Messrs. Campbell, Jones & Co., the well-known glass firm, have commenced the manufacture, under letters patent, of glass journal boxes designed to supplant the brass boxes now used. The advantages claimed are cheapness and prevention of fire from heating. The South Side *Herald* says of the new article of manufacture: Proper moulds have been made and one pot of glass of a peculiar "mix" has been fashioned into the article. One car on the Citizens' Passenger Railway, Penn street, and one on the Birmingham line have been provided with these boxes, and the experience of some days speaks very favorably for them. The experiment was recently tried in one of our planing mills, to use a glass box for the journal of a saw shaft and the result was highly satisfactory. The common supposition is that the lack of friction would do away entirely with oil, but Mr. Jenkin Jones, of the firm, advocates the use of a very small portion of lubricating fluid, as it is much safer.

Several boxes have been submitted to the test of hydraulic pressure, and the following results followed: A box, made of ordinary glass, sustained a pressure of 10,000 pounds to the square inch before cracking. A box made of the special "mix" required a pressure of 27,300 pounds to crush it; so it is patent that the special "mix" is best. The mode of tempering, too, is slightly different from the plan commonly in use.

We have just seen an experimental machine at the glass works of the firm, the shaft of which has 772 revolutions to the minute, but had been running for four hours continuously, and both the boxes and shaft were perfectly cool.

The River Improvement Meeting.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

To me, it looked odd, it seemed strange that Gen. Moorhead should allow himself to accept the chairmanship of the river improvement meeting held on Friday last. Next, the address of Col. Merrill took up too much time, and was trivial in matter and egotistical in manner; the main object of the meeting, namely, modes of improving the Ohio river, being lost sight of. Next, the coal men, who openly avow their opposition to any so-called improvement of the river that will obstruct their trade, objected to Col. Merrill's plan, as they have heretofore objected to all plans submitted up to this time, but through one of their members, Mr. J. F. Dravo, proposed an adjourned meeting to discuss all plans that might be offered. Now rises Felix R. Brunot, the able debator, who, knowing the composition of the assembly and what he can do, urges an immediate expression of opinion, and in half an hour's careful and special preparation shows himself so superior in debate that he gets passed his resolutions—namely, that Col. Merrill be thanked, and that Congress be asked for money for the radical improvement of the Ohio river. Arthur Kirk gets in a resolution that Congress be asked for money to experiment on new and hitherto untried plans in the Youghiogheny river, and the meeting adjourns.

It appears to me that such meetings are worse than farces; how can we expect to obtain appropriations of money when a doubtful majority or possible minority ask for it, when opposed by a powerful, rich, earnest, energetic body of coal men, who say that such so-called improvements are obstructions and will destroy their trade?

A President of a blackwater in the chair; an engineer exhibiting a plan for himself to carry into execution; and a special and very able debater who has a patented improvement plan of his own, may pass resolutions in the room of the Chamber of Commerce, but they will not convince the public. LOOKER ON.

Industrial Education.

We are sorry that two of our daily contemporaries have pronounced against the Industrial School scheme for Pittsburgh. It appears to the writer that both of these papers, have a misconception of the subject as understood by Governor Hartranft and others, who have recognized the vast importance of such instruction to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. First both *Leader* and *Chronicle* are opposed to it because, as they say, it is too expensive a project for the few who would be benefited by it. The friends and advocates of the project urge it upon the grounds of its great benefit to the masses, and the consequent benefits to the city, first and second, to the Commonwealth in their manufacturing and commercial industries, and material prosperity.

The writer of the editorial in the *Leader*, is entirely wrong when he endeavors to impress his readers, that the proposed school is to be supported by a local tax and "thump our shoulders to receive this new burden," and we are uncharitable enough to think that he knows better, for the fallacy is apparent in the same article. There will, no doubt, be a large portion of the common school fund of the State diverted to industrial education, by the Legislature this winter, and there is no city in the State to which this fund is better adapted as a location for a school of this kind than our own city; but if the local press oppose it, Philadelphia, or some more enterprising city, will secure the bulk of the appropriation and reap its benefits.

There is another misconception on the part of some, and especially college bred gentlemen, who seem to think that schools of this character must be placed so far far above the masses that only post graduates from academical and college courses should be admitted. And if anything kills outright the project of industrial training in this country and in this city, it will be these ideas that obtain among gentlemen of the "long gown." These schools in Germany, France and England are placed very near the Primary and Secondary schools, and reach the masses as well as our Grammar schools do in Pittsburgh. In Germany the pupils are graduated from the Secondary schools (same as our ward schools) into either the gymnasium or "real schule," at their option, the former being classical and the latter mathematical and scientific. The one leading to the university and the other to the industrial or trade school. The course in our ward schools, so far as it goes, is well adapted as preparatory schools, and all that would be needed to prepare the pupils for entering successfully into industrial schools, suited to the manufacturing interests of Pittsburgh, would be an additional two years' course in applied mathematics, chemistry and physics. Neither the High School nor the University has now a scholastic or literary course of this nature; nor will they have until a separate English mathematical and scientific course is effected, without forcing on a whole bill of fare upon the pupils, *volens volens*, including Greek and Latin and many of the ologies and osaphies of a liberal education. But our paper is long enough. We will continue to develop what we believe to be the true plan of industrial education suited to Pittsburgh, in brief papers from time to time, upon the subject.

D.

THE WESTERN PENITENTIARY.

Something About the Labor There.

In a very readable letter to the Philadelphia *Press*, Rev. J. S. Travelli gives a report of a concert held there on Christmas day for the benefit of the prisoners, and concludes with the following interesting notes about the

LABOR OF THE INSTITUTION.

As I was connected with the institution from 1833 to 1836, and now for about three years past, I ought to know something about the workings of the system. At first picking oakum was almost the only thing that was done here. In many respects it was no better than the old Walnut street prison, at the corner of Sixth street, where so many iniquities were practiced—I do not care to recall them. I have always regarded the plan of solitary confinement, while in some respects an advance on the old plans, as one vastly expensive, and having very many defects—defects well known to every intelligent man familiar with either the Western or Eastern Penitentiary. The plan has never been carried out perfectly. Even if there were cells enough to give every man one to himself, complete isolation would be an impossibility. It has never been done either at Philadelphia or Allegheny, and never will be. The experiment being made here and in Philadelphia is a gigantic one. In Philadelphia the old system is still pursued, administered as well as can be. It has always been expensive; do the best they can, it must remain so. Here, owing to the blessed effects of the special law enacted for this prison, authorizing the assembling of the prisoners for work, for instruction, and for worship, and administered as wisely as it has been here; the history of this prison must, to wise prison reformers, in the very near future, tell a wonderful story. In one item alone I think the forthcoming annual report for 1875 will show that the expenditure, all told, of $15,000 toward the close of last year for the new workshops, will probably yield a net gain to the State of over $50,000, and this in a year of almost unexampled depression in business —a year in which prison contracts in all the States have been thrown up—and when in this institution for a considerable portion of the time the men have been employed only half the time. With the large increase in the population of the State, and the pressure both in Allegheny and in Philadelphia of the population of the cities around these penitentiaries, the building of one or more new penitentiaries will almost certainly become an absolute necessity; hence the importance of the utmost care in the experiments now being tried on this large scale.

THE SCHOOL

here is working nicely—so far as I can judge—and I think this is the opinion of every inspector and every officer, as well as of many of the men. It is a neat school, with a school room and regular classes in day time. But I know of no happier illustration of the law allowing the assembling of the men than the gathering in the beautiful chapel where the exercises were held today. I do not believe there is a neater or more suitable building for the purpose to be found anywhere. The stained-glass windows, the chandeliers, the neat, plain, comfortable seats, the prison choir, and the new organ, all tell that wise, tasteful, sympathetic hearts had much to do with its erection and the arrangements for service. I took pains to go to different parts of the chapel, during the performances to-day, to try for myself its acoustic properties. I could hear perfectly wherever I went. In this respect and many others, church architects might learn many an important lesson by a visit to this same chapel. Beside those connected with the prison, there were present some twenty-five or thirty visitors. I do not believe that one of these, or one of the prisoners, will ever forget the Christmas concert of 1875.

OUR FINANCIAL STATUS.

Taxable Property of Pittsburgh—The Street Bonds Outstanding.

We give below additional items of interest from Controller Snodgrass' annual statement of the assets and liabilities of the city of Pittsburgh:

STREET BONDS.

The total indebtedness for street improvement under the Penn Avenue act foots up $5,361,200. Following are the streets paved under the act: Penn, Frankstown, Cedar, Taylor, Winebiddle, Elm, Ella, Main, Collins, Neville, Fifth, Shady lane, Second, Bedford, Wylie, Hiland, Jane, Webster, Butler, Pearl, Forbes, Brownsville, Washington, Soho, Wadsworth, Boston, Emmett, Forbes, Carson, Elsworth, Liberty, Stanton, Thirty-third and Thirtieth. The heaviest expenses were incurred in Penn, $424,506; Fifth, $510,000; Second, $535,000; Forbes, $535,100; Brownsville and Washington, $215,000; Liberty, $368,300, and Stanton, $348,100.

TAXABLE PROPERTY.

Following is the valuation of taxable property in the different wards, whether real estate, personal or occupation:

First ward	$ 7,359,671
Second ward	5,015,246
Third ward	13,679,374
Fourth ward	9,308,379
Fifth ward	2,712,370
Sixth ward	4,478,387
Seventh ward	4,187,723
Eighth ward	3,416,375
Ninth ward	3,999,915
Tenth ward	4,786,720
Eleventh ward	4,017,392
Twelfth ward	4,663,928
Thirteenth ward	4,318,147
Fourteenth ward	3,717,806
Fifteenth ward	3,832,140
Sixteenth ward	4,068,923
Seventeenth ward	6,477,841
Eighteenth ward	4,115,487
Nineteenth ward	7,022,694
Twentieth ward	5,532,356
Twenty-first ward	3,878,330
Twenty-second ward	5,159,976
Twenty-third ward	4,176,355
Twenty-fourth ward	1,912,694
Twenty-fifth ward	3,477,998
Twenty-sixth ward	3,448,287
Twenty-seventh ward	1,892,874
Twenty-eighth ward	3,721,317
Twenty-ninth ward	2,245,387
Thirtieth ward	2,345,970
Thirty-first ward	892,404
Thirty-second ward	2,140,989
Thirty-third ward	1,451,381
Thirty-fourth ward	1,139,652
Thirty-fifth ward	961,200
Thirty-sixth ward	1,192,981
TOTAL TAXABLE PROPERTY	$160,919,308

The following is the cash valuation of taxable property in the city of Pittsburgh:

Real estate	$149,459,070
Personal	2,677,648
Occupation	8,782,590
Total	$160,919,308

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"The Twelve Temptations" have had their day, and are gone. Let us give thanks, and hope they may never return.

This evening the great Shakespearean pageant, "King Henry V., or the Battle of Agincourt," will be produced for the first time in this city, and in a style worthy of the play and its author. Mr. George Rignold, an English actor of acknowledged talent, and said to be the handsomest man on the stage, will appear in the title *role*. Mr. Frederic Thorne, another English actor, is to appear as *Fluellen*. Mr. C. B. Bishop, the well-known comedian, appears as *Pistol*. Miss Marie Brabook, an English actress, the wife of Mr. Rignold, appears as *Rumor*. Mlle. Dorel, a French actress, takes the *role* of *Princess Katherine*, or *Daughter of the King of France*. A number of other new actors will appear. A host of supernumeraries in gorgeous costumes appear in the battle scene. A number of horses are included in the auxiliaries. The managers, proverbially liberal in matters of stage mounting and furnishing, have expended liberally of their means for the production of this piece, and the public should reward them by filling all the seats at each performance.

Miss Jane Coombs will begin an engagement at the Opera House on the 10th inst., during which she will produce Taylor's "Original Mabel," "Adrienne, the Actress," and other plays. Barry Sullivan then returns for a week, and will be followed by Maggie Mitchell and her company.

Library Hall—Titiens Concerts.

The Titiens concert troupe, consisting of Mlle. Theresa Titiens, Mme. Arabella Goddard, Signor Baccei, Signor Orlandini, Mr. Mark Keiser and Mr. Prat, are at the Monongahela House, having arrived on Saturday evening. This evening they will give their first concert at Library Hall. The programme is an excellent one, from first number to last. Mlle. Titiens has three grand solos from Von Weber, Schubert and Mozart, while she also sings a duet with Signor Orlandini. Madame Arabella Goddard, the famous English pianist, will render two grand solos. Signor Baccei will sing the aria "La Donna Mobile," from "Rigoletto," and a duet from "Martha," with Signor Orlandini. Mr. Mark Keiser will play two violin solos. Miss Inez Kennedy, our beautiful and talented young vocalist, will make her professional debut at this concert, and is set down for two grand solos, Sir Jules Benedict's "Carnival of Venice" as arranged for Mlle. Carlotta Patti, and a *scena* and *aria* from "Traviata," "Ah! forse e lui."

The prices of admission have been made quite reasonable, considering the quality of the attractions offered, and the hall should be crowded both on this and Wednesday evening. It costs but one dollar for admission, or a dollar and a half for a reserved seat. The sale of seats is going on at Kleber & Bro.'s, 122 Wood street.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

One good troupe succeeds another with great regularity at Trimble's Varieties Theater. This week we have a full band of female minstrels, fourteen in number; Prof. Lawrence's troupe of living statutes; John Pendy, comedian; Mlle. De Granville, lady Hercules; the wonderful little velocipedists, Venus and Adonis; Shea LeClair, Turner Brothers, Joe. Lang and G. W. Herman. Mr. Johnson, the scenic artist, has just completed a beautiful conservatory scene, and it will be used for the first time this week, set off with natural flowers and singing birds.

The Cathedral Band.

The annual election of this organization, held Saturday evening, resulted as follows: President, Frank McLaughlin; Vice President, John Breen; Secretary, P. Moran; Treasurer, T. Archer; leader A. Louis Weis; director, John Oborlies....

BOLD HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

The Victim Loses a Gold Watch and $20, and is Roughly Handled.

Saturday morning, a little before two o'clock, Mr. George Lennox, a young man employed as clerk in McKallip's commercial agency, was returning to his home on Lacock street, near Sandusky, Allegheny, and when he had reached the middle of the Suspension bridge, a party of six or seven men, who were following him, began to approach rapidly, until he suddenly felt himself colared, and the next instant he was jerked violently upon his back, and the men, with knee upon his breast, commenced to rifle his pockets. Mr. Lennox is an Irishman by birth, and had in his pocket a gold watch which, in the old country, had cost $200. This was taken, together with about twenty dollars in money—all that was found upon his person. While the robbery was in progress he struggled violently, and this brought upon him most merciless abuse. Several of the men kicked him repeatedly on the head, face and sides. When they had gotten all his pockets contained, one of them suggested that they throw him into the river. With this intent they raised his body until his shoulders were on a level with the bridge railing, when approaching footsteps frightened them, and leaving their burden they fled to Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh detectives have the matter in hand.

MORE LANDSLIDES.

Brownsville Avenue Takes Another Tumble.

Brownsville avenue, which has been on the go since the late heavy rains, took another tumble yesterday morning. This time two brick houses belonging to Thos. Miller, Sr., and another owned by Jacob Sheffner, near the head of Fifth and Sixth streets, were utterly demolished. A frame house was also thrown down. By the recent slides in that neighborhood some twenty dwellings have been damaged, several of them entirely destroyed. At a point opposite the head of Fifth street the ground moved several feet yesterday, and the costly stone work on the avenue broken down. It now looks as if the vast sum of money expended in the improvement of that unfortunate thoroughfare has been in a great measure wasted. Fortunately the people residing in the sliding district were warned in time and moved out, so that no one has been injured. It is not improbable tha the city will have a heavy bill of damages to settle.

Mercantile Library.

In our advertising columns to-day will be found the ticket to-be, nominated by different parties, for officers of the above association for the ensuing year. Both sides are very active in canvassing for votes. The present board are on one ticket, and an entire new ticket is in the field to oust them. As to the present administration, we are assured by some of the officers of the Library that during the past year the business of the Library, outside of the lecture course, has been very satisfactory. The receipts for membership and the number of members, notwithstanding the depressed times, exceed any previous year in the history of the association. Want of efficiency, therefore, cannot be alleged against the present board. The ticket headed by General Sweitzer for President represents the ins, and that headed by Mr. J. J. Dealty the outs, etc. Every member of the association should take sufficient interest in the contest to be either present to vote or send his proxy.

Dwelling Robbed.

Some time during Saturday night the dwelling of Mr. Klinordlinger on Eighth street was entered by thieves through a rear window. They captured two overcoats, Mr. Klinordlinger's pantaloons and suspenders, and a child's gold locket and chain. They got no money.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Adams Express cars were yesterday set on the Connellsville road.

THE Connellsville Railroad will hereafter be known as the Baltimore and Ohio, Pittsburgh Division.

THOMAS W. DAVIS, Esq., Internal Revenue Collector for the consolidated Twenty-second District, was sworn in on Friday.

THE churches were very largely attended yesterday, and it is to be hoped that this will be followed up "all the year round."

THE Short street tunnel, South Side, running from Twenty-first street to Thirtieth ward school house, is now completed.

ON Saturday night a great light was seen in the vicinity of the Point bridge, and it is supposed that some one of the coal tipples was burned.

THE City Councils of 1876 meet this afternoon for organization. The Presidents and clerks for the past year will undoubtedly be re-elected.

HERRONS HILL will be visited by the Board of Fire Commissioners this morning with reference to the extinguishing of the fire in the coal seam near Thirty-third street.

ROBERT DEAN was committed to jail by Alderman Edgar, of Allegheny, Saturday evening, for trial on a charge of assault and battery preferred several weeks ago by Ad. M. Ray.

HENRY MARTZ, of Lilly Station, Cambria county, was brought here Saturday evening on a charge of selling liquor without a United States license. The United States Commissioner held him for trial.

REV. THOMAS CRUMPTON, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, on Roberts street, preached yesterday an able sermon on the Centennial year just commenced, taking as his text the 56th verse of the 8th chapter of St. John's.

CAPTAIN GUS. L. BRAUN, of the Duquesne Greys, received a New Year's present Saturday from the Oil City Greys, in the shape of a handsome shield, for breast ornamentation—one of the results of the Chautauqua camp last summer.

MR. JOHN ALEXANDER, an artist of this city, who has been for some time engaged in the Harpers' printing establishment in New York, has been spending a two weeks' vacation with his many friends here. He left for his field of labor Saturday morning.

THE notorious Jack Leland was arrested in front of the Presbyterian church on Union avenue, Allegheny, during the services there yesterday, for insulting ladies. Officers McIntyre and Marshal, after a desperate struggle with Jack, succeeded in depositing him in the lock-up.

MR. JAS. M. MCEWEN, Secretary of the Moorhead (Eleventh ward) School Board, makes the most complete and detailed financial report that we have seen of any school board. If it were published in the newspapers, as it should be, it would give information to other secretaries as well as to the general public.

THE alarm of fire at a quarter before eight Saturday evening from box 24 was occasioned by a lamp explosion at No. 5 Townsend street, which house is owned by John Mullen and occupied by a colored man named Sands. The fire was extinguished without much damage. Sands was burned somewhat in the hands in his endeavors to put out the fire.

CHRIST SCHRADER, a member of Knap's battery, had one of his hands badly injured on Seminary Hill, on Friday night. He was engaged in loading a cannon when the lamp was accidentally overturned, and the man at the vent allowed the air to enter, causing the charge to explode. The swab was shot through the hand of Schrader, splintering it so badly as to disable it utterly.

JAMES MAGILL was fined $50 and costs by Mayor Phillips, Saturday evening, for making an unprovoked assault on a young man named James Huering, of Rochester, and striking him on the head with a handy-billy. Huering, who was on a visit to his uncle, a Western avenue grocer, was passing along Rebecca street, near Ridge avenue, when the ruffianly assault was made.

YESTERDAY about noon a colored driver of Mr. William N. McDonald's carriage, recklessly drove his team onto the Federal street crossing just as the Chicago Express was nearing the street, and had not the engine been reversed and the air brakes applied promptly, we would have a terrible accident to record. The carriage contained several ladies. The driver will be arrested and punished.

THE party who was bagged at the Union Depot Friday morning of the sixteen gallons of gin in his possession has been entertained to be John Wallace *alias* James McCreery, who had served a term in the penitentiary for robbing the same Bowl House and in his possession Friday morning was identified as the property of Captain C. W. Batchelor. Mayor McCarthy committed Wallace in default.

THE Youngstown *Register and Tribune*, of the 31st ult., says: "Bob Plater complains that a butcher hailing from Pittsburgh, stole between forty-five and fifty dollars from his till this morning. Plater had gone out for a short time, leaving this man in charge of his meat market, and when he returned the man and money had both disappeared. He has since been tracked by the police as far as Briar Hill.

BRANCH 52 of the Emerald Benevolent and Literary Association was permanently organized on the South Side last week, by Alderman Fulton, State President, and the following officers were elected: President, L. T. McGrath; Vice President, Poik Shevlin; Recording Secretary, C. A. O. Breen; Corresponding Secretary, T. M. Dixon; Treasurer, D. Ihmsen; Marshal, Col. W. J. Dick; Assistant Marshal, T. J. Rutledge.

REV. JOHN S. SANDS, pastor of the Eighth U. P. Church, preached yesterday morning from the text, Psalm cxix., 16: "I will delight myself in Thy statutes: I will not forget Thy word." The pastor laid particular stress upon the duty of reading and studying the scriptures; asked that each of his hearers read the Bible from beginning to end during the year 1876, and that they vie with each other in following Christ, in which only there can be happiness.

A BOY named Miller was arrested yesterday for breaking a window in a residence near Straub's brewery, on South Canal street, Allegheny. It appears that Miller and another boy named Kesselmaier were throwing stones at pigeons on the brewery, and the missiles passing over that building struck the window of a house on the other side. This work is engaged in every Sunday, and the Mayor is going to try to put a stop to it. An information will be made to-day against the two boys named.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

A Young Salesman Cuts His Throat with a Penknife.

Wm. Booth, aged about twenty-eight years, salesman in Mr. C. I. Barr's furnishing store, on Smithfield street, attempted to commit suicide yesterday morning, by cutting his throat with a small penknife. Booth, it appears, had been drinking deeply for several days, and was evidently laboring under *delirium tremens* when he made the rash attempt. He was seen in the vicinity of Mr. Barr's store about one o'clock Sunday morning by an acquaintance, to whom he stated that burglars had planned the robbery of the establishment. The party to whom he made this statement thought Booth was intoxicated, and attributed his fears in regard to a robbery to a disordered mind. It is supposed the young man was on the street all night, as he appeared at the Central station about seven o'clock in the morning and stated to Captain Wooldridge that some men on Smithfield street, near Mr. Barr's store, were going to murder him. The Captain started out with him to look after the would be murderers, and when they came near the corner of Fifth and Smithfield, Booth exclaimed, "There they are!" and ran rapidly back to the station house. Captain Wooldridge seeing no one, concluded that the man was not in his right mind, and on returning he placed Booth in a cell.

At the conclusion of the morning hearings, about half-past eight o'clock, the turnkey was directed to bring Booth into the office, and going to his cell the official found the young man lying in a pool of blood, with a small-bladed penknife in his hand and a gash in the right side of his throat. A physician was summoned, who, upon making an examination of the wound, found that no vital part had been reached by the knife, and gave the opinion that the man would recover. About two o'clock in the afternoon he was removed to Mercy Hospital.

Booth is an Englishmen, and has been in this country only about four years. He was employed for some time as book-keeper at Sneathen & Co.'s boat store, which situation he left two years ago, since which time he has been with Mr. Barr. He is spoken of as a man of undoubted honesty and considerable ability as a salesman.

A MURDER, PROBABLY.

A Man Stabbed by His Step-Son.

About one o'clock this morning Lieutenant Harrison and Officer Henzy arrested a young man named James Kayler, aged seventeen, on the charge of stabbing and probably fatally wounding John Griffin, his step-father. The parties reside above Kirkpatrick street, near Bedford avenue, Eleventh ward, and about two o'clock yesterday morning, during a quarrel, young Kayler stabbed Griffin twice, in the back of the head and in the neck. Dr. McCandless, who was called in, stated that the wounds are quite serious, and that Griffin may not recover.

Stabbing Affray.

A young man named Jacob Rouble, an employee of George Emrich, a drover, who resides on Pennsylvania avenue, Allegheny, was stabbed in the neck Saturday morning, shortly after midnight, while engaged in a street fight near the Union Hotel, Irwin avenue. It seems that Fred. Riddle, foreman of the carpenter shops of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Company, with a number of others, was in the hotel bar room, when the proprietor asked them to drink. While they were standing at the bar some boys slipped up and began to fire crackers to the tail of one Patrick Brannon, who stood beside Riddle. The latter seeing them ordered them away. Several men came forward and urged them on. Some high words between themselves and Riddle followed, which terminated upon the latter going out. The others followed, and shortly afterward a fight was inaugurated, in which Rouble was stabbed as already stated. He was attended by Drs. Hartzell, Magee and Voight, who are of the opinion that the wound, although severe, is not necessarily fatal. Riddle was arrested and committed to await the result of Rouble's injuries. He denies all knowledge of the stabbing. The prisoner was formerly captain of the Allegheny night watch.

—Dr. Hardtmayer, who was called in to see the wounded man yesterday, pronounces his injuries not at all serious. This being reported to Mayor Phillips, he released Riddle on bail in $2,000.

"Supers" for Henry V.

There ought to be no difficulty in securing the requisite number of men advertised for as supernumeraries for the production of Henry V. at the Opera House this week. When the piece was played in New Haven the supernumeraries were obtained from the students of Yale, exclusively, Captain Cook, of the city police, acting as manager. At the first rehearsal one of these "supers" found it necessary to correct the Duke of Exeter in the pronunciation of the couple of Latin lines which fall to him, and astonished the professionals by a long speech to them in that defunct tongue. This will not be a good opening for those who would like to get the other side of the footlights without compromising their dignity.

Heavy Loss.

A dispatch received last night from Springfield, Ill., says: In the gale here last evening the roof of the Springfield Iron Company's mill, now in process of erection, was blown off and a portion of the wall was torn down. The loss is not less than $10,000, and falls principally on the Keystone Iron Roofing Company, of Pittsburgh.

"Facts Are Stubborn Things."

Thousands of human beings are yearly borne on the swift current of disease down to the grave, just because they do not possess a sufficient knowledge of themselves. A man meets his neighbor, and the first salutation is, "How are you ?" or "How is your health ?" The reply frequently is, "Oh, I am well, with the exception of a cold." Most persons lightly regard a cold. Reader, do you know that a cold is one of the most dangerous of maladies ? A cold not only unsettles the entire nervous system, and retards circulation, but it is productive of Catarrh, which is quite apt to lead to Consumption. "Oh," you say, "it is nothing but a *cold* in my head." True; but *that cold* is really a mild form of Catarrh, and if not arrested in its course will become chronic. Catarrh is one of the most disagreeable, offensive affections in the catalogue of diseases. The passage to the nose is obstructed, the sense of smell impaired, and there is a disagreeable sensation of pressure in the head. In the more advanced stages, there is a discharge having an offensive odor. If the disease be allowed to continue in its course, thick, hard incrustations will form in the head, the bones of which sometimes become softened and break away in pieces. Why will persons continue to suffer from such an annoying, disgusting disease, when they can just as well be cured of it? Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy will cure the worst forms of Catarrh; in fact, it is the only sure and safe remedy which has yet been offered to the public. Many harsh, irritating preparations may, for a time, relieve some of the worst of the symptoms, but they do not cure the disease. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is soothing and healing in its effects, and when used with Dr. Pierce's Nasal Douche, according to directions, does not fail to effect a cure. Sold by all druggists. MWF

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Schenck's Mandrake Pills

Will be found to possess those qualities necessary to the total eradication of all bilious attacks, prompt to start the secretions of the liver, and give a healthy tone to the entire system. Indeed, it is no ordinary discovery in medical science to have invented a remedy for those stubborn complaints, which develop all the results produced by a heretofore free use of calomel, a mineral justly dreaded by mankind, and acknowledged to be destructive in the extreme to the human system. That the properties of certain vegetables comprise all the virtues of calomel without its injurious tendencies, is now an admitted fact rendered indisputable by scientific researches; and those who use the Mandrake Pills will be fully satisfied that the best medicines are those provided by nature in the common herbs and roots of the field.

These pills open the bowels and correct all bilious derangements without salivation or any of the injurious effects of calomel or other poisons. The secretion of bile is promoted by these pills, as will be seen by the altered color of the stools, and disappearing of the sallow complexion and cleansing of the tongue.

Ample directions for use accompany each box of pills.

Prepared only by J. H. Schenck & Son, at their principal office, corner Sixth and Arch streets, Philadelphia, and for sale by all druggists and dealers. Price 25 cents per box.

POLITICAL.

State.

It sounds very funny to hear the Pittsburgh *Post* crowing so lustily and crowing all alone for Judge Black as the next President of the United States.—*Pottsville Journal.*

General.

The Bucyrus *Journal* thinks Ohio may furnish both Presidential candidates in the coming struggle. Senators Sherman and Thurman are the men to whom it refers.

Democratic Congressmen talk of an adjournment by May 1st. They will need a little rest before entering upon the arduous labors of the stump.—*Springfield Republican.*

The Boston papers are waxing eloquent over Faneuil Hall as the place for holding the National Republican Convention. That would be a chilly place to get up a third term flare.

An enraged Eastern Democrat says it was a great blunder to elect Kerr Speaker. The blunder goes further back than that. It was made by the people in electing a Democratic Congress.

The New Hampshire correspondent of the New York *Times*, reviewing the political situation in that State, says: "Though the contest will be close, the Republicans are likely to be well united this year, and will work with zeal and enthusiasm, inspired by a very strong hope of complete success. They are in far better trim than they have been for the last

CLARION, PA.

Contested Election—Effort to Oust the Republican Treasurer on a Technical Violation of the Election Law—New Water Works and Fire Department.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

CLARION, PA., December 31, 1875.

Your readers will remember that at the late election a Republican County Treasurer was elected by the people of this heretofore stronghold of the Democracy. Not content with being defeated by a fair, honest expression of the people at the ballot-box, the defeated candidate, Patrick Graham, backed by a number of embryo office-seekers, fearing that the scepter was about to depart out of their hands, has undertaken to contest the election. He does not charge that any fraud was committed in the election, and the only ground of complaint is that, in four districts, the election was not held at the place fixed by law, the objection being a mere technical one. This move has created a storm of indignation, and our people are justly indignant at this base attempt to set aside their expressed will. Groaning as they are under a heavy burden of taxation, the result of the corruption of a Democratic administration in the building of our new jail, they look with horror on this new effort to foist eight or ten thousand dollars more on them, simply to gratify disappointed place-seekers. The answer of the respondent has been filed, and is a total denial of the charges set up in the contestant's petition, and at the same time sets up charges of gross irregularities in other districts that gave the contestant a majority, and in some of them actual fraud is charged to have been committed in the interest of the contestant, so that, we think, under the circumstances, the contestant may find before the case is closed that he has a larger elephant on his hands than he contracted for. A commissioner to take testimony has been appointed and the evidence will now be taken. In the meantime, Mr. Gwinn, Treasurer elect, having received his certificate, will take his seat.

Our water works are now doing nicely, and we have an abundance of good water for the town, and have also a good protection against fire. A hose company has been formed, a hose carriage ordered, and so far as a fire company is concerned, we will soon compare favorably with any inland town in the State. The next thing in order is a railroad, and then we will be out of the woods entirely. P.

STATE NEWS.

Sore eyes are epidemic in Pottsville.

The original name of Catawissa was Lawpaugh-petin.

Mrs. Mary Fister, aged seventy-four years, died suddenly in Pottsville on Monday.

'Squire Robert Boyd died in Washington, on the 27th, of paralysis, aged seventy-five years.

Three prisoners in the Norristown jail made an attempt to escape on Saturday night, but their plot was discovered and frustrated.

The Beaver *Radical* of this week "goes the whole hog" by publishing nine columns of arguments to prove that Shakespeare's plays were written by Bacon.

The body of a new born babe was found along the North Penn Railroad at Bethlehem. A woman who is supposed to have thrown the child out of the car was arrested.

One of the societies of the Episcopal Church in Philadelphia talks of establishing a "Consumptives' Home." The *Evening Bulletin* doubts the desirability of such an institution.

A correspondent vouches for the truth of the following: A Lawrence county farmer recently popped the question to a fair widow whose farm adjoined his by simply remarking, "Let's jine lands an' mix."

The body of a newly-born infant was found on Friday morning in a woods near Bryn Mawr. Some soiled clothing was lying near the body, from which it was inferred that the child was born in the woods.

A young man, arrested at York for surety of the peace, has confessed to a large number of thefts in which he and seven companions participated. The other thieves have been arrested on the strength of his statement.

The Harrisburg *Sunday Dawn* published its own obituary last Sunday. In its stead will arise next Saturday the *Saturday Chronicle*, under the same management and with the same general character as the *Dawn*.

At Greece City, on the night of the 27th, the house of David Morrison caught fire from the coal left burning in the stove in the kitchen and was destroyed. Mrs. Morrison and a little son of four years were burned to death.

Recently a demented girl was found in Franklin county sitting on a fallen tree, with her hands and feet so badly frozen that they will probably have to be amputated. She had been wandering in the mountains for three days.

Mrs. John Leonard, of Schuylkill county, has three sons who were born on St. John's day. The time between the birth of the first and second and between the second and third was seven years. They are, of course, all Ma's sons.

On Saturday Mrs. Lizzie Burgher, aged fifty-two, laid down on the North Penn Railroad, near Chelton Hills, and was cut in two by a train. She was a tramp and had made several previous attempts to end her life in the same way.

John Schaler, of Lancaster county, had his ear torn out by the roots (exposing the brain) a few days ago. While turning a plank one end got in a wheel of a moving wagon and the other struck him. His condition was deemed dangerous.

A business house in Columbia has conspicuously displayed in its show window a man's skull, and printed in large letters across the forehead are these words of warning to the daily swarm of traveling salesmen : "This man was a drummer."

The driver of a runaway team in Chester county, recently, while attempting to check them in their mad career, was knocked under the wagon, one wheel of which cut off one of his ears and then passed over his thigh. Unless the driver boasted an unusually large ear, that wagon wheel must have given his head a close shave.

Bucks county seems favorable to longevity. The list of deaths published in last week's Doylestown *Intelligencer* included the following: Joshua V. Buchman, 73; James Closson, 76; David E. Hance, 73; Hannah Cowgill, 83; Mahlon Smith, 93; Martha Hill, 92; Abraham Roth, 98. The number of very old people is remarkable.

The Sunbury *Daily* says: Ministers evidently are plain spoken in Selinsgrove. Not long since, while one of them was sermonizing from the pulpit, the church door opened and a young jark hesitated to stand in the doorway. The reverend gentleman gave him a withering look and caused his sudden retreat by saying—"